The New-York Times.

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RAILWAY PERILS.

Victims of the Recent Disaster in Pennsylvania.

Twenty-One Bodies Found and Five Still in the Wreck.

Names of the Killed and Wounded as far as Known.

A Passenger-Train Telescoped by a Freight-Train.

Thrown off the Track by a Broken Rail.

THE RAILROAD MASSACRE.

Names of the Dead and Wounded so Far as Known—Twenty-one Bodies Found and Five More in the Wreck.

CORRY, Penn., Dec. 25.—The following are known to have been killed by the accident on the Buffalo, Corry and Pittsburg, or Cross-Cut Railroad last night:

Frank Haight, of Brockton, Sanker, one leg shattered and the other twisted off at the thigh, and the head badly bruised.

Mr. Osborne, of Westfield, side of the head smashed in and one leg burned off below the knee.

Mr. Ryan, internal injuries.

R. H. Bell, telegraph operator at Sherman.

Mr. Carleton, bruised on the body and head.

Frank Taylor, baggage-master of the train.

Gen. Moloney, train-master, of Brooklyn.

The wounded are:

W. H. Lee, of Corry, slightly.

Joseph Bartland, of Irving, N. Y.

Levi Dugge, of Angola, N. Y.

John H. Hilton, of Rochester.

Mrs. J. M. Carleton, of Mill Village, whose child was saved, but whose husband is still missing.

Maggie Carleton, of Titusville.

Geo. Miller, of Fredonia, N. Y.

Henry Miller, of Titusville.

J. J. Burtis, of Titusville.

W. H. Tedmar, of Titusville.

Miss Zelly Ripley.

John Cowdry, of Corry, two large wounds over the left eye, and bruised about the body.

Barney Cook, injured internally, and suffering great pain.

John Dunlap, of Hamilton, Ontario, very severely.

Pat Flanders, conductor, will probably recover if his internal injuries are not too severe. He loses two toes from the left foot and half of the right foot; his ribs were broken by being pulled out with a chain.

Burt Bacon, reported dead, is only slightly injured, having secured the registered letters and extricated himself by a jump.

Of the killed, twenty-one have been recovered, and sixteen are so charred as to be unrecognizable. Four are in the Chautauqua House awaiting relatives, and one at Prospect. There are yet three to five bodies under the ruins reduced to a mass so undistinguishable only by pieces of shells and bones.

The train was going on a down grade of eighty-two to eighty-five feet to the mile, and was about sixty rods from Prospect Depot, and had steam shut off. It was about three feet from the north corner of the house when the broken wheel of the tender, he is discovered, and was under the impetus of the down grade, as oppose could not be made. Every care is being taken of the wounded, who are scattered around in the farm houses near by, and medical attendance was promptly furnished.

The conductor's pocket showed thirty-seven through tickets issued up, and one to Prospect. There were, it is supposed, about fifty persons on the train, which consisted of one passenger-car, one baggage-car, an engine and tender.

ANOTHER.

A Snow-Blocked Passenger Train Telescoped by a Freight Train.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 25.—A passenger train on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, while stuck in a snow-bank, twelve miles west of Newton, Kansas, was run into by a freight train, and had two cars telescoped. The conductor and another man were killed, and four or five others were wounded. The names of the killed and wounded are not yet reported.

STILL ANOTHER.

Twenty-five Persons More or Less Injured, and Three Fatally, in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 25.—The rear car of the Chicago express train, on the Indianapolis, Pera and Chicago Railroad, was thrown from the track, last night, by a broken rail, about eighteen miles north of this city. Twenty persons were more or less injured, and it is thought three fatally. The most seriously injured were Mark Hames, of Richmond, Ind.; H. H. Walker, of Indianapolis; George Henry, brakeman, and Mrs. Boyd, an old lady, from Plymouth, Ind., who had her shoulder crushed; and A. W. Smith, of Indianapolis.

CALIFORNIA.

Sentence of a Murderer to be Executed—Benefit of Col. Evans' Family—Rain and Next Year's Harvest.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 25.—Gov. Booth has declined to interfere in the case of James Donovan, sentenced to death for the murder of Marshall. He will be executed in this city on Friday next.

The performance in the California Theatre last night for the benefit of the family of the late Col. Albert F. Evans was very largely attended.

Copious rains fell yesterday in every section of the State from San Diego to Yreka. No doubt there will be a bountiful harvest next year.

LYNCH LAW.

A Murderer Hanged by a Mob in Visalia, Cal.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 25.—At Visalia, yesterday, a noted desperado, James McCrory, shot and killed Charles Allen. He was arrested by officers and found armed to the teeth. An excited crowd assembled and tried to take the prisoner from the officers, but the latter succeeded in lodging the man in jail. A vigilance committee was organized at once, the Sheriff and his deputies were overpowered, and McCrory was taken from the jail and hung under a bridge near the prison.

GAMBLERS ARRESTED.

Descent of the State Police on the Boston Faro Bankers.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—The proprietors of the leading gambling houses in Boston, together with about a hundred of their patrons, were brought to sudden and unexpected grief this evening. Some ten days ago Chief Constable Brannon, of the State force, in connection with Detective Smith, commenced their plans for a general raid, and on account of the dens being more generously patronized on holiday occasions it was deemed wise to make the descent on Christmas. Five of the leading places in the City were "come down on" simultaneously, and an aggregate of nearly a hundred men were arrested thereafter. At No. 9 Huron-street only empty walls were supposed; but at No. 22 Salisbury-street there were forty-five arrests; five at No. 8 Montgomery-place, sixteen at Albany-street, and about twenty at No. 32 Howard-street. About $6,000 worth of furniture, together with a large quantity of gambling paraphernalia was also seized, and will be destroyed in obedience to the anti-gambling laws of Massachusetts. Among the parties arrested were a number of prominent citizens, including, besides merchants, manufacturers, one prominent bank President of Boston and a clergyman of a neighboring city. They were all taken to the headquarters of the State Police and admitted to bail for their appearance in Court to-morrow morning. They will probably be let off by payment of a fine and costs, amounting in each case to about $50.

SPAIN.

The Emancipation Bill in the Cortes—Indemnification for the Slaves.

MADRID, Dec. 25.—The bill providing for the emancipation of the slaves in Porto Rico was read in the lower branch of the Cortes, yesterday. All slaves are to be free within four months after the promulgation of the passage of the bill. The slave-owners are to be indemnified for their property. Many of the Deputies expressed their approval of the bill by cheers after its reading.

The Government again announced that reforms in Cuba were postponed in consequence of the insurrection on that island.

Indemnity Provision in the Emancipation Bill.

MADRID, Dec. 25.—The Porto Rico Emancipation bill provides that the slave-owners shall receive eighty per cent. indemnity, of which the State shall pay forty per cent., and the colony the balance.

RUSSIA.

Illness of the Czarewitch.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 25.—The Czarewitch is ill with the typhus fever.

The Illness of the Czarewitch Considered a Grave Case.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 25.—It was officially announced today that the Czarewitch has been ill since the 19th of November, and his malady becoming serious on the 12th of December, it was pronounced a case of typhus fever, accompanied with an affection of the abdomen, which the physicians considered of a grave character.

The bulletin issued this morning says His Imperial Highness passed a tolerable yet tranquil night. The fever has not abated, but his condition continues about the same.

FRANCE.

Spaniards Prohibited to Sojourn in the Department of the Basses-Pyrenees.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—The Prefect of Pau has issued an order forbidding Spaniards to sojourn in the Department of the Basses-Pyrenees without written permission.

NEW-ZEALAND—AUSTRALIA.

Political Reforms—Inter-Tribal Disputes—Wreck and Loss of Life—A Captain and Mate to be Hanged.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 25.—The steamer Nebraska arrived today from Auckland, New-Zealand. The Australian steamers did not make the connection, and consequently there are no mails from that country. The Nebraska brings New-Zealand dates up till the 8th of November.

The twenty-eighth session of the Provincial Council opened on the 19th inst. The Governor has commenced departmental reforms, which, says the *Independent*, if likely to create a certain degree of dissatisfaction among a few, will be calculated to satisfy the country. The Department under the charge of a native Minister is the first to feel the new broom. The office of Inspector of Volunteers and Militia has been done away with.

Inter-tribal disputes of a rather threatening character have occurred at Wiapu, on the east coast. The resident magistrate writes that both parties are armed and refuse to allow each other to cross the river.

The Nebraska dressed ship at Dunedin and fired a salute in honor of President Grant's reelection. The salute was replied to by the Naval brigade.

The returns of the customs revenue for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1872, published in the *Gazette*, show a total of $303,307 against $288,722 for the corresponding quarter of last year.

The ship New-Castle was wrecked off Cook Strait, and sixteen persons perished, on the night of the 19th of November.

The Pacific Fire Insurance building, on Front-street, Auckland, has been totally destroyed by fire, together with several stores adjoining, and the magnificent building occupied as the Post and telegraph offices, and the Provincial Government offices.

Important discoveries of coal have been made in Cloph's Land.

The Governor, Viscount Canterbury, goes home to England in February.

The bill for mining on private property is not likely to pass this session.

AUSTRALIA.

The New-South Wales Assembly has rejected the Narrow Gauge Railroad bill.

Capt. Armstrong, and Dowdee, the mate, of the ship Carl, have been convicted of murdering several Polynesians, and have been sentenced to death.

The estimated expenditure for the year shows an increase of $176,000.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Death of King Kamehameha V.—An Interregnum and Expected Revolution.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—Advices from Honolulu received here state that King Kamehameha V. died in that city Dec. 11. He was the last of the royal line, and named no successor, which leaves an interregnum during which the people are sovereign. The Legislative Assembly meets on Jan. 8, when it is expected that body will nominate a successor of the late King. The Hawaiin *Gazette* favors a popular movement for the purpose of securing a free constitution, and a revolution is expected. At the latest dates all was quiet.

BY MAIL AND TELEGRAPH.

Miss Ward, aged thirty-five years, hanged herself at North Orange, Mass., on Tuesday.

Jacob Martin, while crossing the river at Columbia, Penn., on the ice, yesterday morning, broke through and was drowned.

James Millmore, brother of Martin Millmore, the sculptor, and an honored member of the same profession, died in Boston on Tuesday.

The Presbyterian Building Committee, in Rondout, N. Y., have changed their minds in regard to iron as a building material, and will use something else.

During Tuesday night the store of James Gilmore, dealer in linen goods, No. 87 Thomas-street, was visited by burglars who succeeded in carrying off $400 worth of goods.

At Harrisburg, Penn., the wash-house of the Lunatic Hospital was destroyed by fire, yesterday morning. The flames did not extend to the Asylum building, and no lives were lost.

The complimentary dinner to have been given today by citizens of Boston to Hon. E. B. Washburne, United States Minister to France, has been abandoned, as Mr. Washburne was obliged to leave for New-York to take steamer on Saturday for Europe.

The Anderson Murder—New Verdict Too—Probable Disappointment of the Jury.

The jury in the case of Dr. Irish are still out, and so far as can be ascertained there is no prospect of their agreeing upon a verdict. At 10 o'clock yesterday morning, Judge Pratt sent a written communication to the jury, asking them how they stood. The reply was that they stood just as at first, which, it is intimated, was ten for acquittal and two for conviction. Judge Pratt informed the jury that he would not return to the Court until this morning, unless he should be notified that they had arrived at a verdict.

The Bayard-Street Shooting—Arrest of Harrington.

Yesterday the police of Brooklyn arrested John Harrington, who shot Julia Smith, at No. 29 Bayard-street, about three weeks ago. Harrington, it seems, had moved to Brooklyn, where his relatives reside, and, after "keeping dark" for over a week, reappeared, and by keeping clear of New-York succeeded in escaping the vigilance of the police. Yesterday, however, he was arrested on a charge of complicity in a grand larceny, and the New-York Police were promptly notified. Julia Smith, the girl who was shot, having recovered, left the Park Hospital a week since, and was received in a Catholic Protectorate.

AN IMPERIAL WEDDING.

The Emperor of China Has Taken Unto Himself Several Wives.

An Event Without a Parallel for Two Hundred Years.

A Pen-Picture and History of the Principal Scenes—The Expense of the Affair—The Ceremonial and the Bridal Presents.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Friday, Oct. 25, 1872.

Of late, your readers have been too much taken up with the work of making a President to think much about Emperors. Now, however, (by the time this reaches you,) the ballots are cast and counted, a lull has supervened on the long excitement, and people are looking about for another sensation. If they would come here they might find it in China. We have just had one, and in three months we are expecting another, which, considering the usually moderate velocity of this country, is having startling events in pretty rapid succession. The first of these is the Emperor's marriage; the other, to which we are looking forward, is the declaration of his majority and the assumption of power.

For readers at a distance the latter event may possess little interest, however absorbing the concern with which it is regarded by us, who know how deeply it is likely to affect the domestic, and possibly the foreign, relations of this populous Empire. But of this anon. A marriage is always interesting, especially when an Emperor is the bridegroom. Coupled with this last condition, the event seldom occurs. Those of the exile of Chislehurst and Francis Joseph of Austria, are the only Imperial marriages that have occurred in Europe within the period of my recollection. Waiving a more distinctive or terms, and including the marriages of reigning sovereigns, the number is somewhat increased, but in China it is so rare that it has not occurred before for more than two hundred years.

In the eyes of the people the interest of the occasion has been greatly enhanced by its connection with the majority of their sovereign. They have accordingly been expecting it with impatience for weld years, though the happy bridegroom is now but just turned of seventeen. And for as many years have the looms of Nankin, Canton, and Hong Chou been employed in the preparation of silken stuffs for the trousseau of the Empress. On these vast sums have been expended, amounting in the aggregate to not less than half a million of dollars. Yet this is but a small item in the whole bill of expense, which, including the repair of palaces and largesses to the Imperial Guard and Tartar banners, will foot up, it is said, some fifteen or twenty millions. The lady in whose honor all this treasure is lavished is a person of some consideration. Is she the daughter of some neighboring potentate, and famed alike for her beauty and her birth? The son of heaven acknowledges no neighboring potentates and as for rank, no circumstance of birth can add dignity to one who is an object of the Imperial choice. But is she beautiful? The London *Illustrated News* will give you her portrait. But be assured it is a fancy sketch. Here are the materials "our special artist" has had to draw upon—seeing no likeness of the lady has ever been allowed to reach the public, viz.: A popular rumor which describes her as tall, slender, with high cheek-bones, a straight nose, and eyes that sparkle "as though each had a double pupil," giving her a remarkable aspect of vivacity and intelligence. To these features is to add raven hair, black eyes, olive skin, appending the well-known bridal gear of a Chinese Empress, and the portrait, however questionable its origin, will not be far from correct.

The history of the lady has a dash of romance—not, however, in the way of courtship, for love-making and courtship are unknown in China—but in the vicissitudes of her family. Her grandfather, Sai-Shenna, a nobleman of Mongolian extraction, was sent, twenty years ago, to lead an army against the Taiping rebels, then just beginning to menace the peace of the Empire. Failing to shut them up in their mountain fastnesses, he was degraded, imprisoned, and all his property confiscated.

In daily expectation of the sentence of death, his only consolation was the companionship of a dutiful son, who resigned the offices he held under Government to share the disgrace and the dungeon of the fallen General. That filial son is the father of the lady Aluta, who, for ten days past, has been Empress of China.

The old General was reprieved, but his goods were not restored—his family mansion being now occupied by the officers of the Board of Foreign Affairs. The son, having nothing to depend on but his own talents, applied himself to study with redoubled ardor. In the metropolitan competitions he successively achieved high honors, until eight years ago, examined in the Palace, in the presence of Majesty, he won the first rank among the scholars of the Empire. That rank is designated by the uneuphonious term of Chmongques—a title that carries with it more of *éclat* than all the wrangleships ever conferred by English universities. He is a Tartar, and the only one of his race on whom that title was ever bestowed. Possessing a literary distinction, which is sometimes compared with the honors of royalty itself, he is now a Duke of the Empire, and his descendants are, in all probability, destined to occupy the Dragon Throne. Chinese ladies have in general but little education, but the daughter of such a man would not be allowed to grow up in ignorance, and it is to her attainments in letters, no less than her beauty, that the lady Aluta owes her elevation.

Three other ladies were married at the same time—not to different husbands, but to the Emperor himself. Each receives an honorable title, and the selection of each was announced by special decree. Still, they are only the first detachment of a small army of nymphs, all following in the train of the Empress, subject to her sway, and immeasurably inferior in position. Of the Empress the moon is a favorite symbol, as the sun is of her "Imperial consort—the one shining prominent in the midst of ten thousand lesser lights, while the other walks in solitary splendor—symbols which are understood to embody a political as well as a social principle.

For some months the Empress elect, accompanied by the ladies above mentioned, has been occupying a temporary palace, where she and they have been taking lessons in their future duties. And about that building, in my view, centres the chief interest of this grand occasion. It was there that on the 15th inst. she received from the hands of a special ambassador the golden seal which made her Empress; in fact, as she had before been in name; and it was there that she saw her father for the last time, he kneeling by the door-step, as she rode away in her magnificent palanquin.

The complex and tedious ceremonial of that day would weary your readers, as it certainly wearied those who had to go through it. But there are a few points that are worth noticing. Among the people it is customary for the bridegroom to proceed in person to the house of the bride, for the purpose of bringing her home. This duty the Emperor performed by proxy. A golden tablet, inscribed with the decree, or patent of appointment, and a golden seal intended for the Empress, were placed on a table surrounded by a cloud of incense. The seal weighs about forty pounds avoirdupois, and itself the wives were "sealed," to use the common phrase, at the Emperor is, the Emperor would find his polygamy an expensive indulgence.

His Majesty, advancing to the table, inspects the insignia of the dignity which he is about to confer on his chosen consort. He seats himself on a throne, and two ambassadors kneel before him, while a herald proclaims, with a loud voice, "By command of the Emperor Domestic, and the Empress' mother, His Majesty has been pleased to select for Empress the Lady Aluta, daughter of Chungshi, a doctor of the Imperial Academy. You nine officers are commissioned to perform the rites of nuptial investiture." Thereupon the Grand Chancellor places in their hands the badge of office, when they take up the seal and tablet and proceed to the house of the Imperial bride.

The father and brothers kneeling at the gate welcome the ambassadors; and the lady herself receives, on bended knees, the insignia of her new rank. She then dons her robes of State, and ascending her vehicle is borne away in the midst of an immense retinue of nobles and Mandarins. It was near midnight when the procession entered the "forbidden city," and your correspondent did not wait to see it pass; but he had an opportunity of seeing the same procession going through a kind of rehearsal or drill a day or two before.

Arrived at the central palace, the Emperor, attended by the officers of his household, waited on his bride, and the Imperial pair pledged each other in cups connected by a chain of gold—a beautiful and significant rite, insinuating that their destinies were henceforward to be one and inseparable. This was after midnight, and consequently on the morning of the 16th. The festivities of the ensuing days I need not describe—the men and women always to separate halls, and usually at different hours, an arrangement which must make court life in China inexpressibly dull. The most important incidents are a public homage rendered by the Empress to her Imperial Lord; her formal introduction to the dowagers, they sitting in state, and she kneeling three times and making six curtsies; public congratulations of the Princes and magnates; a visit of the Empress and concubines to the dowagers; a visit of the Empress and concubines to the Emperor; a feast to the father, and a feast to the mother of the Empress; the proclamation of a decree conferring special graces on sundry classes; the whole concluding by His Majesty visiting the various temples at which he is accustomed to pay his devotions and announcing to his ancestors the consummation of an event which has for its object the perpetuation of the line.

Your readers, if not too weary of these details, may not object to hear something about the bridal presents—those, I mean, made by the Emperor to the bride and her parents. According to custom, they were sent some time in advance to the house of the bride, occupying five days in the delivery, and each day being borne by between five hundred and a thousand men. Furniture, clothing, silks and satins, jewels and solid treasure made up the bulk of the presents.

Among the gifts to the Empress I may mention a thousand rolls of satin, and sixty-eight horses. To her parents were given a hundred and thirty ounces of gold, a golden tea-canister, six thousand six hundred ounces of silver, five hundred pieces of satin, fur robes, six horses, &c., &c. Nor was the grandfather forgotten, the presents for him being silver in kind, but less in quantity.

Reserving for another letter the decree of grace which purports to come down from heaven in the beak of a golden phenix, I remain,

THE FIJI ISLANDS.

Discontent with the Government Among Planters and Settlers.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—News has arrived from the Fiji Islands to the effect that the settlers and planters are dissatisfied with the composition of the present Government. A meeting of planters was held at Evuka, on the 6th inst., at which very strong language was used against the Government.

THE WEATHER.

Synopsis and Probabilities.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26—1 A. M.—The barometer has continued falling from the Gulf to New-England and the lakes, but has risen during the afternoon and evening over the North-west. Northerly to westerly winds, and clear and cold weather have prevailed over New-England. Cloudy weather and easterly winds are now prevailing over the Middle States, with snow from Virginia to New-Jersey and Pennsylvania; cloudy weather and rain over the South Atlantic States; cloudy weather and occasionally light snow from Tennessee to Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin; brisk north-easterly winds from Cape Hatteras to Cape Cod.

PROBABILITIES.

For New-England, winds veering to easterly, with cloudy weather and snow; for the Middle States, easterly winds, with cloudy weather and snow; for the South Atlantic States, cloudy weather, with rain and winds shifting to westerly; fresh to brisk north-easterly winds along the East and Middle Atlantic coasts, from Tennessee to Ohio and Michigan, cloudy weather generally with light snow and winds, gradually shifting from Illinois and Lake Michigan westward, with northerly to westerly winds and increasing pressure. Midnight telegraphic reports from South Carolina to Florida and Texas, and the extreme North-west are missing.

City Meteorological Report.

The following record will show the changes in the temperature yesterday, with the average for the same, as indicated by the thermometer at Dickinson's drug-store, No. 3 Parkrow: 3 A. M., 5°; 6 A. M., 5°; 9 A. M., 7°; 3 P. M., 14°; 6 P. M., 19°; 9 P. M., 13°.

ABOVE AND BELOW ZERO.

Vermont Touches 26 Degrees Below—Intense Cold in Philadelphia—Moderating Weather in Washington.

RUTLAND, VT., Dec. 25.—"Bitter cold" weather has been experienced here during the last twenty-four hours. The thermometer early this morning indicated 26° below zero. In consequence of the severity of the weather all the railroad trains for the last forty-eight hours have been seriously delayed.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—The weather here is intensely cold.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The severity of the weather moderated at noon, when there was a snow storm, covering the ground in a few hours to the depth of an inch.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 25.—Heavy shore ice, formed in the Mississippi, has been floating past this city since Sunday night, and extends to Helena, ninety miles below. This is the first instance of the kind which has occurred in fifteen years.

CAIRO, Ill., Dec. 25.—The steamer Wild Cat, lying at the foot of Twentieth-street, was sunk last evening by heavy ice which was floating down the Ohio River. It is doubtful whether she can be raised. The barge Swallow was also struck by the floating mass and immediately sank.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—The weather today has been intensely cold, the thermometer standing only a few degrees above zero. Notwithstanding the holiday has been universally observed, there were but few persons on the streets, and the churches were but thinly attended owing to the bitter cold.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—The thermometer at sunrise ranged from zero to 6° below, with extreme cold all day.

LANCASTER, N. H., Dec. 25.—The past night was the coldest ever known here. At 5½ P. M. the spirit thermometer indicated 30° below zero, and at 7 A. M. 45° to 50° below, according to location. Numerous cases of frozen limbs are reported.

BATH, Me., Dec. 25.—The mercury in this city this morning indicated 20° below zero, which was the coldest, with personal one or two exceptions, since 1857, when the river was frozen over for a week or more. The ferry-boats are running as usual today.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 25.—The weather here today has been intensely cold, the thermometer at an early hour indicating 30° below zero.

LEBANON, N. H., Dec. 25.—The mercury here today was 30° below zero.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 25.—Reports from numerous localities, north and east, indicate a remarkably cold spell of weather.

DEATH BY FIRE.

Seven Persons Perished in the Centre-Street Flames.

Anxious Inquiries for the Bodies of Friends and Relatives.

Further Details of the Fire at the Baxter Building—Names and Residences of the Victims and Statements of Their Friends.

The rumors that lives were lost at the great fire in Centre-street, on Christmas Eve, prove to be only too true. There can now be very little doubt but that seven of the employes of Archer, Anderson & Co., the book-binders occupying the upper floors of the building, were burned to death, some of them within sight of persons on the sidewalk. Of the fifty girls employed in the bindery, it was at first thought that all had escaped, some with slight wounds and bruises, as reported in the TIMES of yesterday, but six of the girls and a boy cannot be found, and their bodies, if they have not been consumed, will probably be found beneath the *débris*.

All day yesterday anxious inquiries were made at Capt. Kennedy, at the Sixth Precinct Police Station, for the following persons, all of whom were doubtless killed:

Jane Stewart, of No. 71 Charlton-street; inquiry made by her father, John Stewart.

Bridget McGrath, of No. 323 First-avenue; inquiry made by her brother, Michael McGrath.

Two sisters, Mary and Margaret Donoho, aged twenty-five and twenty-eight years respectively, of No. 123 East Tenth-street; inquired for by their brother, John Donoho.

Margaret and Charlotte Bell, sisters, aged twenty-eight and thirty-one years respectively, living at No. 69 Avenue A; inquired for by Alexander Bell, their brother.

James Bernus, aged twelve, an apprentice employed at the bindery, living at No. 164 Broome-street, top floor; inquiry made by George W. Boyle, living at No. 4 Birmingham-street.

The girls mentioned above were all employed as binders and sewers. All of them have been missing since the fire.

The janitor of a building in the neighborhood of the fire stated that he saw a woman as a window waving a handkerchief and imploring help from the crowd below. In a moment she was enveloped in flames, and was seen no more. The building fell in fifteen minutes after the fire was discovered; and another man is said to have seen a woman at a window gesticulating, when the walls fell and crushed her. It is fully conceded that had not the fire-escape to the Caxton Building been in a neglected and incomplete condition, there would not have been this dreadful loss of life.

THE VICINS OF THE FIRE.

Mr. Alexander Bell, of No. 69 Avenue A, was visited last evening by a TIMES reporter, who had a conversation with him concerning the loss of his daughters, Charlotte and Margaret Bell. He was much overcome by the announcement of their sad fate, and stated that they left for work as usual on Tuesday morning, and had not been seen by him since. They were respectively twenty-eight and thirty-one years of age, and worked in the bindery, on the upper floor of the building. Mr. Bell spent the day yesterday in visiting the Sixth Ward Station-house and the scene of the fire, in hopes of securing some intimation of the fate of his girls, but wholly failed. A reporter also called at No. 164 Broome-street to ascertain the facts respecting the death of James Bernus, a young lad twelve years of age, who was employed in the buildings. His mother, Catharine Bevan, who is a widow, was weeping bitterly, and bemoaning the loss of her child. She appeared to entertain no doubt that her child has been burned. She stated that he left home at the usual hour, on Tuesday morning, to go to his place of employment at 7 o'clock, and has not since been heard from. Having never been allowed to associate with the boys in the street, he was always punctual in returning home every evening. He was employed to attend the girls on the fifth floor. A man, who stated that he was a boarder in the place, was seen, had been speaking with him only a few minutes before the discovery of the fire, so that no doubt exists as to his fate. The girls employed in the building and one of the superintendents had made up $7 for him as a Christmas present, and he was showing the money to this man just before the fire. Establishments exhibiting the principal of all the good things no could enable his mother to provide for Christmas.

Similar stories are told by the relatives of the others named above. They went to work at the usual hour on Tuesday morning, and have not since been seen or heard from.

LOSSES AND INSURANCES.

The following is a corrected list of the losses and insurances as far as they can be ascertained:

The Caxton Building Nos. 81, 83, and 85 Centre-street, which, with the contents, was completely destroyed, was owned by Robert Craighead, whose loss is estimated at $75,000, which is but partially covered by insurance. Owing to the absence of Mr. Craighead from the City the details of the insurance could not be ascertained.

The second floor was occupied by Dun, Barlow & Co. as a printing establishment. Their loss is estimated at $600,000, and they have an insurance of $104,000.

The third floor was occupied by the New-York Newspaper Union. Loss estimated at $30,000; insured for $15,000.

The fourth, fifth, and sixth floors were occupied by Archer & Anderson, book-binders; loss on stock, machinery, &c., $60,000; partially insured.

No. 87 Centre-street, a two-story brick building, owned by the Lorillard estate, was entirely crushed and destroyed by the falling walls; loss on building, $2,500; insured for $2,000. It was occupied by James Gallaghan, brass founder and bell-hanger; loss $3,000; insured for $1,500.

No. 89 Centre-street, a two-story brick building, owned by the Lorillard estate, was damaged to the amount of $2,000; insured for $12,000. The basement of the building was occupied as a restaurant, by Wm. Blohm; damage $600; no insurance. The first floor is occupied as a drinking saloon by Geo. Middleton; loss $1,500; insured for $3,000 in the National Company. A portion of the first floor was occupied by Edmond Price, as a law office; loss $200; no insurance. On the second floor were the law offices of Howe & Hummel; loss $1,500; insured for $2,500.

No. 79 Centre-street, a two-story frame building with a brick front, owned by the Lorillard estate; damage $2,000; no insurance. It was occupied by E. S. Conion as a paint-store and dwelling; loss on stock and furniture, $2,000; insured for $600.

No. 77 Centre-street, a two-story frame building, brick front, owned by the Lorillard estate; loss on building $500; no insurance. It was occupied by Henry Wilmes as a liquor-store and dwelling; loss $1,000; insured for $2,000.

Nos. 125 and 127 Worth-street, a four-story brick building, (rear,) owned by J. Stockton; loss on building $3,000; insured for $10,000. The first, second, and third floors were occupied by Woehr & Miller as a saw and planing mill; loss on stock and machinery $4,000; insured for $2,000. The fourth floor was occupied by Gustavus Burger, pattern and model maker; loss $3,000; no insurance.

No. 129 Worth-street, a three-story brick building, owned by the Lorillard estate. Damage $700; no insurance. It is occupied by Wo-hr & Miller, whose loss is estimated at $2,000; insured for $2,000.

No. 131 Worth-street, a two-story and attic brick building, owned by the Lorillard estate, was damaged to the extent of $800; no insurance. It is occupied by a number of families who sustain a total loss of their effects, and their furniture and household effects. The tenement houses Nos. 130 and 132 Leonard-street, were also slightly damaged, and the furniture of the occupants was injured by water.

The losses of Dun, Barlow & Co.'s merchantile agency are about double the amount as first reported, and consist of $120,000 on type and presses, and 10,000 copies of their Reference Book for 1872, valued at $1 50 each. The insurance is $80,000 in New-York companies.

The fire was evidently caused by the ignition of vapor from a can of benzine. Fire-Marshal McSpedon will commence an investigation this morning.

During yesterday and last night an engine was kept at work on the corner of Worth-street, and the firemen poured a stream of water on the centre of the ruins, where the fire was still smouldering and sending up a cloud of smoke. The walls of the south-west corner remained for a few feet each way, and, in contrast to the remainder of the wreck, resembled a ruined tower. The rest of the building had fallen inward, and the débris was covered with a coating of ice several inches thick.

GAMBLERS' TOOLS.

The Right of the Police to Confiscate Them—The Question to Come Before the Courts in Chicago to-Morrow.

From the Chicago Tribune, Dec. 25.

The war between the police authorities and the gambling fraternity has reached a critical point. Yesterday morning Constable Harrison, of Justice Dexter's Court, served a writ of replevin upon Superintendent Washburn, Capt. Hickey, and Sergt. Lull, in the interest of two gamblers, named Jaffin and Gunn, whose room in the Bressange Building, corner of Washington and Clark streets, was "pulled" on Thursday evening. The apparatus of the establishment, consisting of two tables, a "lay-out," a "case-counter," a "check-rack," a "dealing-box," a set of "chips," and a few packs of cards, was confiscated by the police, and it was for the purpose of securing the return of these that the writ was issued. The constable found the tables and some of the other tools at the First Precinct Station, and levied upon them. The rest of the property had been put into a box and sent to Head-quarters before Hartman's arrival. As soon as he learned this, the constable called upon the Superintendent. He found the box resting on a chair in the latter's office, and seized it without delay. The writ was then read to the Chief. In order to prevent the execution of any more writs for the day at least, Mr. Washburn directed the officers on duty at Head-quarters to destroy the tools found at No. 240 West Madison-street on Thursday evening. Subsequent events proved the wisdom of this order. Before Hartman left with the box, City Attorney Skiles was sent for by the Superintendent. Just about, after examining the writ for the fourth, asked the Constable to let the property remain in the possession of the police for a few days. He peremptorily refused to do it, knowing full well that it would help feed the furnaces in the basement before he would levy upon it again. Gen. Stiles venured the remark that, in his opinion, the police could retain the box by force, if necessary. To this Hartman responded that he would arrest any person who undertook to do it, on the charge of interfering with an officer in the discharge of his duty. He also said that he would call on the entire police force to aid him, and, if that failed, the assistance of the military would be invoked. The interview terminated abruptly at this point, and Hartman withdrew, accompanied by the box. The writ is returnable on the 6th inst., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and the case will be tried before Justice Dexter.

Late in the afternoon another writ of replevin was served upon the Superintendent by parties who claimed to have a chattel mortgage on the property taken from No. 240 West Madison. They were courteously yet firmly directed to proceed to the basement and serve the document upon the furnaces, into which the articles had been thrown some hours before, as mentioned above.

Superintendent Washburn remarked to a Tribune reporter, yesterday afternoon, that he was glad that the writ had been served upon him, and that the property had been recovered in one case. The law authorizing the police to confiscate gambling apparatus would now come before the Courts for a thorough examination, and the privileges of the authorities would be clearly defined.

Harvard's Reply to the University of Virginia.

From the Richmond (Va.) Dispatch, Dec. 24.

We have before published the timely letter of sympathy addressed by the Faculty of the University of Virginia to that of Harvard College, since, in view of the loss of the last-named institution by the Boston fire. The following is the appreciative reply of the Faculty of Harvard:

HARVARD COLLEGE,
CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Dec. 10, 1872.

DEAR SIR: The Faculty of Harvard College send hearty thanks to the Faculty of the University of Virginia for their very welcome expression of sympathy and good will, called forth by the recent losses which this college has sustained. The kind hope expressed by the faculty of the University of Virginia that the losses of the college may soon be repaired is in a fair way to be fulfilled. The probable losses amount to $600,000, of which sum one-half has already been subscribed by friends of the college and of all culture.

We have been touched and quickened by your sympathetic words. "A disaster to Harvard is a national calamity." You express the general faith which is ours too—that vigorous universities are essential to national strength, and that the interests of all institutions of the higher education are common. I beg you to convey to the faculty over which you preside the cordial wishes of the Faculty of Harvard College for the prosperity of the University of Virginia as an important element in the national prosperity. With much respect, very truly yours,

CHARLES W. ELIOT, President.
Prof. CHARLES S. WEMBLE, Chairman of the Faculty of the University of Virginia.

Desperate Encounter with a Chinese Burglar.

From the San Francisco Call, Dec. 15.

About 2 o'clock yesterday morning, Mrs. Liebmann awoke and saw a Chinaman passing from the parlor into the bed-room, and her first idea was to arise and seize the fellow, but she changed her mind and awoke her husband. He sprang from his bed and grasped the Chinaman, who passed through a door opening into the hall. Mr. Liebmann followed him, when the Chinaman raised a hatchet which he was carrying in his hand and struck him on the forehead. Mr. Liebmann wrenched the hatchet from the Chinaman's grasp, and struck him several blows with it. The Chinaman attempted to get out of the house through the hall, but found a middle door closed against him, so he ran to the end of the hall, raised the window and jumped out. In doing this he caught hold of Mr. Liebmann, and attempted to drag him with him. While the struggle between the two was going on, Mrs. Liebmann went to the front door and rang the bell to alarm the people who lived in the upper part of the house. A gentleman came down-stairs, but was unable to reach the scene of the difficulty in time to be of any assistance. After the Chinaman escaped, Mr. Liebmann was attended to, and found that he had received a wound nearly five inches in length, which, though very painful, is not dangerous. Sergt. Kingsbury, who happened to be in the vicinity, had his attention directed to what had occurred, and he, with Officers Meagher and Hogan, instituted a search for the Chinaman. They traced blood from the window to a house in the yard, where the Chinaman had evidently fallen, and then along an alley at the side of the house, and along Jackson-street to a house on the corner of Powell, where a Chinese doctor lives. They arrested the doctor, and from him learned that a Chinaman had been there to have two wounds dressed, one of them on the head, and the other on the left hand, and that he had left but a few moments before the officers arrived. These wounds were, no doubt, inflicted by Mr. Liebmann. The Chinaman, who was a burglar, had attempted to break into the house through a window in the basement, but he had failed in this, and had entered through one of the parlor windows. The burglar has not yet been arrested.

Juvenile Education in Central Germany.

The President of the Statistical Board at Berlin, Dr. Schwabe, according to the London Echo correspondent, lately made a speech at a public meeting in order to prove the deficiency of juvenile education in the centre of Germany. Children are much improved by public instruction, but they are strangely deficient in the knowledge of nature and natural phenomena. It was stated that from about 1,000 children examined before being admitted into school, 777 never saw any rainbow, 633 a field of potatoes, 603 a constellation, 598 the sunset, 482

composed of red-handed ruffians and maniac women, attempted to burn the City of Paris to the ground. They had every advantage. A disorganized Government, a half-disbanded fire-brigade, no police to check their predatory and incendiary incursions, kerosene and petroleum scattered through the city, houses saturated with inflammable oil, all the thieves and vagabonds of both sexes siding in the work of destruction, and with what result? Opposed to this humbly powerful and equally infamous association of the criminal and revolutionary classes were the respectable citizens, not equaling them in strength. And the consequence was that Paris was not burned by the Commune; scarcely a tithe of the fair city fell before the vengeance of the rabid ruffians, the *petroleuses* were arrested one by one and executed, and order and quiet were restored. In contrast with this is presented the spectacle of the most valuable portions of two great American cities being razed to the ground by fire, despite the united efforts of two disciplined and effective fire departments, with the entire population of both cities aiding in the suppression of the flames. It is idle to say, and disreditable to assert, that Chicago and Boston were behind New-York in respect to the construction of buildings. They were, in all respects, fully equal to, and, in many points, superior. What are the fancy buildings which attract attention on the public thoroughfares of this City? Built in a hurry, made with fancy, showy fronts, the walls hollow and full of imperfections, to say nothing of hollow floors and ceilings. Of course, the European buildings alluded to are undoubtedly too expensive for many purposes, and unsuited to many localities where fire-proof buildings are necessary. It is not absolutely imperative that every stable, like the famed "horse palace" of Boss Tweed, should be built of Carrara marble.

There are much cheaper methods of construction, equally safe, and which answer admirably for stables, manufactories, warehouses, and commercial purposes generally. For all practical ends, all that is necessary is to have a building of sufficient solidity to support not only its own weight, but the weight of the merchandise to be stored in it, and to construct its walls, floors, partitions, ceilings, staircases and roof with solidity, and of such materials as are not easy of combustion under ordinary circumstances. The secret of preventing large fires by the construction of safe buildings lies more in the judicious use and distribution of the materials used than in the quality of the materials themselves. With this point established and constantly kept in view, it is only necessary to construct the outer walls and supporting parts either of wood, brick, stone, or iron, or a combination of these materials, and to fill up the intermediate parts or spaces with any good description of concrete, manufactured from the various natural deposits abounding throughout this country. In a word, the secret is in building solid, instead of hollow.

There are fire-proof buildings in this City which are as safe as fire-proof buildings can ever be made. But they are few. The property-owners who do not erect buildings like these in business thoroughfares, on the score of cost, are mistaken. The few fire-proof buildings are, in proportion to their cost, more remunerative to their owners, than structures of an inferior character; for a merchant, even if he be heavily insured, dislikes to insure his stock in an unsafe building, when, by paying an increased rent for more comfortable quarters, in a fire-proof warehouse in a building of a really fire-proof character. The payment of even a full insurance does not compensate for the inconvenience of being burnt out; and the vexation of business naturally consequent on such a misfortune. When this fact is more thoroughly understood and appreciated by the mercantile community, the building of safe structures will increase until the requirements of the public are satisfied. The *debris* of old buildings, coal ashes, and cinders from boilers and blast furnaces, and many other refuse materials, can be utilized to make excellent concrete, and can be so applied as to make many insecure buildings comparatively fire-proof, and at a trifling cost above the present system of construction. The whole subject may be summed up simply. Let buildings be constructed so as to be non-conductors of fire; let every building be divided into, as far as possible to confine a fire to a particular locality, and master it before it gains the mastery. These simple suggestions can be carried out by any builder of ordinary intelligence and experience, and it is only reasonable that there may follow a radical revolution in the present slipshod system of building.

CORRUGATED IRON BUILDINGS.

Just at present there seems to be some misapprehension in regard to the fire-proof qualities of corrugated iron, when used in the construction of houses. No matter how thin may be the iron which covered a wooden building, the public seem to have considered it as positively fire-proof, and the term iron church, meaning in fact nothing more than a frame building covered over with a thin veneer of iron, has been supposed to endow that structure with certain peculiar salamander, indestructible qualities. The iron mostly used is not much thicker than 1-32d of an inch, and the thickest about 1-16th, but even thinner iron than 1-32 is frequently employed. This iron is corrugated more to give it a certain strength than for ornamental purposes, then galvanized to prevent its rusting, and next nailed in sheets to the building, which building may be of rough brick, but in most cases is of wood. That the City authorities have known that such constructions were not fire-proof is evident from the fact that for the last four or five years, save in exceptional cases, no permits have been granted for houses built of wood, on which corrugated iron has been placed. The great use of corrugated iron has been for railroad depot roofs, where its lightness and fire-proof qualities give it great advantages over every other kind of roof. For constructing buildings it first came into use about fifteen years ago, when houses were made of it, but supported by light iron frame-work, but as the expense of building them on this plan was almost as great as if cast-iron was employed, without the same advantages, it has been gradually abandoned. The corrugated iron construction, as exemplified by the Tabernacle in Brooklyn, and Barnum's Circus, in Fourteenth-street, were simply wooden buildings with, if such a compound word can be employed—an iron weather-boarding. If they have any advantage, such advantage could only exist from the outside, which, slight as it may be, is something, though not much in their favor. It may be remembered, that during the time when Mr. Lent was manager of the circus, a fire broke out in the immediate neighborhood, which the circus passed through without harm, but the same might have happened if it had been constructed of brick. The first fire which occurred in a corrugated iron house was at the Empire Laundry, at Twenty-eighth-street and First-avenue. This building caught fire inside, and everything was burnt, but in this case the fire did not spread. The trouble seems to be that, once a fire catching inside, the Fire Department can make but little impression on the outside, as they are generally constructed with as few windows as possible, and being lined with wood exactly as a frame house, they burn completely out, being, in fact, nothing more than stovepipes with wooden linings. In fact, as a leading constructor of iron buildings in the City assured the reporter, "the iron on the wood really if anything kept the wood inside burning, and in this respect it was, when the fire had taken hold, much harder to put out than a simple frame house."

On calling on a principal firm in the City exclusively engaged in making corrugated ironwork, these gentlemen distinctly stated "that they never considered corrugated buildings as fire-proof; that, enough committees, when they built iron churches, might get into their heads that they were fire-proof, but that they (the firm) never considered them, when used in combination with wood, as fire-proof; when, however, secured on iron frames, like those at the ferries, they were as fire-proof as any human constructions could be." They added: "That they thought the corrugated iron building was not so much in favor as had been, but that there was a thousand uses to which corrugated iron could be placed—as to construction of roofs and the covering of ceilings—and for for any purpose the demand for it was increasing every day, as it was still the lightest and best material yet employed for rendering buildings fire-proof."

THE WASTE OF CROTON WATER.

In addition to the many sources of danger by fire, consisting of large aggregations of inflammable material stored without any regard to safety at exposed points throughout the City, to which the public consideration and the attention of the authorities have been invited in these columns, there is another which is, perhaps, possessed of not less importance. The nature of the risk attending it is of an insidious nature, and well calculated to escape the notice of the thoughtless and ignorant. It is a common practice in factories, breweries, distilleries, hotels, livery-stables, and liquor-stores and restaurants to allow a continuous stream of water to flow from the hydrants and faucets, entirely regardless of the almost incalculable quantity of the spring flood thus wasted. Even the most casual observer must have washed with feelings akin to disgust the stupid indifference with which a portion distance of water is wasted in the washing of a carriage or wagon, the cleaning of which might be effected equally satisfactorily with a sponge or broom and bucket. This custom prevails not alone during the Summer months, but to a far greater extent in the long Winter nights, when private families lend their wasteful efforts to increase the quantity consumed to a fabulous extent. In the supply pipes there is no reason why the water is allowed to flow freely, in order to prevent its freezing. That this evil exists to a dangerous extent any one may convince himself by taking the trouble to observe how feebly the water runs in troublesome weather, and especially after night, during which the demand for water for proper use is much less than in the day time. On the second floors of many houses, though lower than the general level of the surface of the City, the pressure of water is so little that it barely trickles from the faucets in drops, while it must be absolutely pumped in the upper cors. Of course, it may be said that the careless waste of water is not the only cause of the weak supply, but it is unquestionably one of the principal.

To estimate the importance attached to the subject by the Department of Public Works, and at the same time ascertain how little has been done to effect a genuine reform, a few facts may be submitted. Under the Tweed regime, twenty-four men were employed by the City Inspector, whose duty it was to inspect all the buildings in their districts, more especially stables, factories, and the like, to discover if any unnecessary waste of water occurred, and report for the imposition of suitable penalties all violations of rules. This large body, which might have effectually suppressed every nuisance in the City at intervals, was perfectly worthless. Because the members never did and never were expected to perform any work, and because the most gross offense might be condoned by a petty bribe. At the beginning of the present year their number was reduced to twenty-five, though why it was not reduced to one hundred every one has explained. The work supposed to be done by them, at all events, does not seem to suffer by their diminished number.

THE CHINESE WASHERMEN.

A Visit to the Laundry at Belleville, New-Jersey.

The writer paid a visit to Capt. Harvey's Chinese washermen, at Belleville, N. J., on Saturday last, and was afforded the opportunity of witnessing the heathen at their ultimate pursuits. Dressed in their native blouse and pantaloons of rough serge, and delighting in their pigtails, the Celestials scrupulously washed, wrung, ironed or hung up to dry the products of the sewing girls' toil, which will be returned to the merchant's store, and sold at an immense percentage. These Chinese laundry-men are a plodding, viewless animal community, who seem hardly conscious of being in a place called Belleville, and utterly indifferent to all things beyond laundries and rice and tea. Their movements are slow and furtive, but they work with extreme regularity. They rarely communicate with each other, and whenever communications do occur during work, they are brief and peevish once. Were it not for the occasion al outbreak of latent smile "as childlike and bland," which Bret Harte has made remarkable, no person predisposed to melancholy should be permitted to enter among these comical and unsympathetic visitors. A Chinaman seldom leaves the room or other of his diligence than the rest, and wearing garments of Caucasian style, hold need surveillance over the laundrymen. This officer has so immovable confidence in his knowledge of the English idiom, and liberally endeavors to furnish the visitor with information on the Tweed Ring and the Chinese immigrants. But Mr. "Le Sang Choo's" English fares in spite of his most desperate efforts to explain the manners and customs of the Chinese in Belleville. He carried a sunflower fan in his hand, and cast furtive glances at the ladies present, who dared stare at us, that I was momentarily reminded of scenes which I witnessed before the great civil war broke out. In Le Sang Choo's processes the washermen noted like so many automata, and, apart from the courteous clerk in the office of the laundry, the institution might be mistaken for a Chinese mill.

The first floor of the building is employed for washing, and for that purpose rows of bleached tubs are ranged in order throughout the room; tables containing the linen intervening. In a store-room on the ground floor, lie huge piles of new starch just arrived from some firm in New-York, Boston, or Philadelphia, or Jersey City. After the process of washing, the clothes are removed to the drying apartment, which is an intensely-heated room on the uppermost story, with only a narrow skylight to afford it light. Cords cross the drying-room in every direction, and the powerful fires absorb volumes of soap-suds from the drying linen. The heat is so oppressive in this apartment for any unaccustomed person to suffer. Yet the "dryers" remain there frequently over half an hour. The drying process ended, the clothes are consigned to the "ironers," who occupy the tidiest and most lively room in the laundry. Of the ironing room is a dark cell which contains a furnace specially manufactured for heating irons. Two tiers of irons that is, over a hundred of these instruments, can be heated simultaneously on the stands which surround the furnace for that purpose. It is amusing to notice the solemnity of the Chinese which the irons perform the trifling office of placing on or removing an iron from the furnace. With a precision from which they never deviate, each ironer, upon reaching the door of the furnace cell, spits on the top of his iron then lifts it to his cheek, then places it against his hip. The Chinaman in this apartment are visiting the furnace all day long, and in no instance did one of them during the writer's visit utter a word or fail to repeat the above methodical tests of his iron. A can of tea was on hand in each of the apartments—tea in the Chinese sense of the term, without milk or sugar—and the thirsty heathen frequently regarded our Mongolian brothers in Belleville excessively delight. At 6 they were called to supper by the ringing of a loud gong. The sound seemed to produce a revivifying effect upon the heathens, and they proceeded in great glee to manipulate their chop-sticks and quaff their native drink. After supper they amused themselves by playing at cards and games with pieces of wood known as "Ka-Ka" and "Si-Coo-Coo." Many of them rarely speak and never engage in any amusement. At 9½ the lamps are out, and John Chinaman of the laundry is dreaming of the Kingdom of Flowers—his celestial empire.

The Incendiary Fire in West Fifty-fourth-Street—Statements of the Parties Interested.

Adolph Kibbel, the young German who was arrested on Tuesday afternoon, charged with having set fire to the match factory of John Loehr, at No. 439 West Fifty-fourth-street as already published in the Times, is still locked up at the Police Central Office awaiting examination. The only evidence against him so far is his own confession to Mr. Loehr, embodied in the following affidavits, which are on file in the Fire-Marshal's office:

John Loehr, being duly sworn says: I keep a match factory at No. 439 West Fifty-fourth-street; a fire occurred there on the 5th of July, at 8 P. M. After six I never knew how the fire happened, but suspected that the place was set on fire, because two of my neighbors told me a couple of days after the fire that they saw somebody on the roof, heard a pistol shot, and saw the smoke coming out of the window. I have never been able to find out who was on the roof and fired the pistol. I keep a lager-beer saloon in the front part of my building; there was a grocery store at No. 441 West Fifty-fourth-street, next door to my place, which was kept by a brother of Adolph Kibbel and his wife; Adolph lived there with them; I had no acquaintance with him at that time; about three weeks ago, on a Sunday, at two o'clock P. M., Kibbel came in to my place and got a glass of beer; he was sober at the time; Mr. John Gunzer, of No. 441 West Fifty-fourth-street was present at the time; I did not know his name at that time; he said to me, in the presence of Mr. Gunzer, that he hoped I would forgive him the old enmity, and biting my fingers over to his sister's house to get my grandson again; I said I had no enmity, and he said he knew that I thought he was the cause of the fire in July, 1868, and then he said that he did it; that he was drunk; that he had a pistol and fired it point-blank through the skylight, and that he did not think it would burn so quick; I thought I would do nothing about it, but made inquiries about his name, and asked Gunzer if he would go with me when I wanted him; on Monday night Kibbel came into my place again in company with Gunzer, and began talking about the occurrence, and gave me his name; I told him to go out and never come into my place again, that he had set my place on fire, and I never wanted to see his face again; he confessed that he had set my place on fire, and asked me to forgive him; I told him to go out of the place; there were present at this time George Bungener, John Gruss, Jacob Lauenhuyer, Wm. Hegel, and my wife; they all heard the conversation; he did not say that they saw anything about firing the pistol, but admitted setting the place on fire, and said that he did not think it would burn so fast.

John Gruss, of No. 443 Tenth-avenue, testified: I am acquainted with John Loehr, and know Adolph Kibbel by sight; saw him on Monday night in Loehr's saloon; there were several other persons in the place at the time; heard Loehr tell Kibbel to get out of his saloon, as he had set fire to his place, and he did not want to see him again; heard Kibbel say that he did set it on fire; that he did it foolishly; did not say how, or why he did it; he went out directly after this.

It is supposed that Kibbel was actuated chiefly by a spirit of malicious mischief to set fire to Loehr's place, and there at present seems to have been no other motive for the act of incendiarism.

The Bunion-Street Fire.

The loss by the fire which occurred on the second floor of No. 76 Duane-street, yesterday, was not so large as was reported. The loss of George Sampson, manufacturer of book-binders' materials, in whose premises the fire originated, will not exceed $1,000. The other occupants sustain no loss. The building, which is owned by the Kate Hastings estate, was damaged to the extent of $500. The fire was caused by an explosion of gas.

THE JANUARY MAGAZINES.

—*Harper's* is unusually full of illustrations this month. It opens with a readable sketch of "Lookeloo—Who has Present," by G. S. Conant, which is illustrated with twenty-six wood-cuts. The "Sailor's Snug Harbor," by Louis Bagge, and the "British Museum," by George M. Towle are plentifully illustrated, as are also "Christmas Throughout Christendom," by O. M. Spencer, and a "Christmas Carol," gracefully translated from the Germany by Mr. Conant. The number also contains the second chapter of Benson J. Lossing's series of papers on "The Old Romans at Home," a clumsy specimen of guide-book writing which is made tolerable only by the profuseness with which it is illustrated; and a Christmas rhapsody, entitled "Where is the Child?" by Mrs. Isabel M. Boddington, of which the illustrations are so good that no one need grieve over the faults of the text. In all, there are nearly one hundred wood-cuts in the January *Harper*, and when it is remembered that to these are added serial stories by Charles Reade, Miss Thackeray and Wilkie Collins, there need be no fear that our oldest illustrated magazine will not easily maintain its place at the head of its class of periodicals.

—The *Atlantic* is not exceptionally brilliant, but nearly all its articles are worth reading. Mr. Howells begins a new serial, entitled, "A Chance Acquaintance," which promises to bear a strong resemblance to "Their Wedding Journey," and to be fully as delightful as that charming story. Robert Dale Owen continues an interesting "Chapter of Autobiography," in which he describes his boyhood days at Glasgow and New-Lanark. Mr. James Parton sketches the "Cabinet of President Washington," and expresses his opinion of its members with his characteristic frankness. Mrs. R. C. Aspinwall continues her story of the cruise of the "Hassler" in the "Straits of Magellan," and Mr. T. Jones, Jr., describes "The Bothma-river Massacre," with an excellent style of art criticism which reminds one of the confident courage of Ruskin in his younger days. The number also contains stories by Caroline Chesebro' and Rebecca Harding Davis, and verses by Oliver Wendell Holmes, Paul Hayne, Marshall Oliver, J. T. Trowbridge, T. B. Aldrich, and Lucy Larcom. Of these, Miss Larcom's "Sylvia" is by far the best, and it really a poem of unusual power and pathos.

—*Scribner's* presents as illustrations to an article describing "New Ways in the Old Dominion" the most beautifully executed woodcuts that have appeared in any American magazine, excepting perhaps the *Aldine*. The illustrations to Mr. Edward King's readable condensation of Mr. Stanley's African book are less satisfactory, but compare favorably with most work of the same sort. The list of contributors to this number contains a rare collection of brilliant names. Bryant, Morris, Miss Bennett, Bret Harte, C. S. Calverley, and George MacDonald each contribute poems; Philip Gilbert Hamerton, Colonel Higginson, and E. C. Stedman are each represented by clever essays, while the story department is ably supplied by Dr. Holland, Edward Eggleston, and C. D. Warner. *Scribner's* opens the new year brilliantly, and the present number will be generally conceded to be the best magazine of the month.

—The *Galaxy*, without Justin McCarthy, would hardly be recognized. Of course Mr. McCarthy is among the contributors to the January number, giving his opinions of East Lynne, with the same generosity which has heretofore impelled him to save future historians all trouble in ascertaining the exact intellectual rank of every prominent Englishman of the present day. "Language, According to Sample," by Mr. Richard Grant White, will be warmly welcomed by those who read and appreciated Mr. White's former valuable philological contributions to this magazine. Mr. De Forest's new story, "The Wetherel Affair," and Trollope's "Eustace Diamonds" are continued, the latter reaching its final chapter. Mrs. Annie Edwards begins a new novel, "A Vagabond Heroine," which promises to be the feature of the *Galaxy* during the coming year. The remaining articles scarcely require notice, with the exception of the "Drift-wood" paragraphs, which, as is usually the case, are thoroughly admirable, both in matter and style.

—*Lippincott's* has two attractive illustrated articles—"Iron Bridges and their Construction," and "Searching for the Quinine Plant in Peru"—and also the best short story of the month, "Monsieur Fournier's Experiment," by Cornelia Dewees. Miss Chesebro's serial "Probationer Leonard" is decidedly dull, and Mrs. Ella Williams Thompson's story, "Gray Eyes," is extravagant and weak. The typographical beauty of *Lippincott's* deserves especial praise.

—*The Popular Science Monthly* opens with a paper on "The Study of Sociology," by Herbert Spencer, which will attract much attention. Whatever may be thought of the peculiar theme which Mr. Spencer has identified with his name, no one calls in question his position as one of the most profound thinkers of the day, and as a master of clear, vigorous English. Alfred W. Bennett contributes an illustrated article on "Spontaneous Movements in Plants," which is full of the results of careful and intelligent observation. A brief biography of "Dr. Livingstone," and a summary of his geographical discoveries, is furnished by L. J. Proctor, and embellished with a portrait of the great discoverer. Prof. Lockwood's paper on "Cultivating Wild Flowers" is interesting, and deserves the especial attention of horticulturists; and an illustrated article on "Art in the Stone Age" is inferior to none of the other contributions, either in value or interest.

—*Our Young Folks* contains thirteen illustrations, and includes among its contributors Mrs. Diaz, Rose Terry, Celia Thaxter, J. T. Trowbridge, and other popular juvenile writers. Few men read *Our Young Folks* without repining at the fate which deprived their boyhood of so precious a prize.

—*The Catholic World* smashes the unfortunate Prince Bismarck, and illustrates in prose and poetry the peculiar tenets of the religion which it upholds. The January number is not as controversial as usual, and hence is lacking in the brilliant audacity of its statements, which has been the best claim of the *Catholic World* to the attention of the reading public.

The Views of an Uncharitable Pennsylvanian, Who Ought to be Ashamed of Himself.

From the Erie (Penn.) Dispatch, Dec. 23.

It is well known that New-England is blessed with a superabundance of the fair sex, and, although most of these delightful creatures are probably possessed of all the graces and substantial accomplishments that can be comfortably carried on the average female form divine, it not unfrequently happens that beauty and worth go a begging in the matrimonial market. And it has long been a problem with Yankee *paterfamilias*, whose households are overstocked with marriageable daughters, and whose confidence in the sentiment, that a thing of beauty is a joy forever, is somewhat shaken; we say it has long been a problem with these gentlemen how to "move," adopting a commercial phrase, their surplus attractions. In the light of these considerations, the following paragraph is calculated to excite a reasonable amount of suspicion in the minds of cautious bachelors:

"The girls in the first class of the High School in Portland, between thirty and forty in number, have agreed, with only two exceptions, to attend for a school dress a plain, substantial, and not expensive material. Overskirts, lace, and velvets are to be wholly discarded, and ribbons used only in a limited extent. No jewelry except a plain pin and ear-rings will be worn. The girls agree to wear no other costume to school between this time and their graduation except on Sundays and at parties. Parents are following their example, and it is hoped that it will become quite general in the schools. Among the things discarded, clang talk may be mentioned, which they agree to drop entirely."

In imitation of the crusty moralists who see nothing but total depravity in five-hundred-dollar sets of furs, and who scent brimstone in velvet at $25 a yard, we feel called upon to indorse the reported action of the Portland girls. But if any young gentleman should become a Benedict through the wiles and witchery of one of these exhibitors of "plain, substantial dress goods, and should afterward discover that the model maiden had a special and unappeasable appetite for overskirts, lace, and velvets, in conjunction with an extensive and diabolically accurate knowledge of slang; and should acquire the additional information that the author of the subjoined paragraph quoted above is a Portland editor, and at the time of writing it had never ventured, daughters in the enemy's land, to have blandly will he insist that he did not lie in his Dispatch, and that he never read the editor's remarks in the New-Hampshire system of "moving" the crop of "sweet girl graduates."

THE ART STUDENTS' ALBUM.

The Fund for a School of Painting—The Album—Its Contents and their Audience—Handsome Conduct of Mr. Frederick Constable—The Album to Appear Shortly.

Some time ago in an article on the art schools of the Academy of Design in the New-York Times, reference was made to the efforts of the students to create a fund for a school of painting. The necessity of such a measure has been deeply felt for several years among artists. And much regret has been felt that no millionaire has cared enough for art to endow such an institution. The students have now determined to help themselves, being willing, indeed, to receive the help of others, if it comes, yet not unwilling to do without it, if it does not. The idea of raising a fund among themselves for the support of a school during the present academic year was discussed and favorably considered. Their talented and zealous teacher, Prof. L. R. Wilmarth, suggested that something might be done by photographing a series of their best drawings from the antique, and offering them for sale in a neatly bound album. This suggestion was warmly received, and the students at once went to work to prepare their drawings, hoping to have the album ready for the great holiday season. But owing to some unforeseen delays they were somewhat retarded, and it is probable that, with the utmost possible diligence, they will not be ready for some days. The drawings have all been handed in, however, to the number of thirty, and consist of the following: Silenus and Youthful Bacchus, by Mr. C. M. Dewey; Apollo, by Mr. S. Robb; Venus de Medicis, by Mr. C. S. West; Roman Slave, by Mr. W. Pitz; Venus of Milo, by Mrs. S. N. Carter, the talented Principal of the Female Art School attached to the Cooper Institute; Bust of Ariadne, by Miss Carrie Crauch, daughter of the poet-artist, and scrip of that name; the famous mutilated reclining statue of the Theseus, by Miss Louisa Glenn, daughter of the veteran journalist; another Silenus and Youthful Bacchus, from a different point of view, by Mr. C. Freitag; two drawings of the famous torso of Venus, back and front view, by Mr. Raymond Dab; the Venus of Milo, by Arthur Daintry; group of the Laocoon, by the same gentleman, and the head of Laocoon by itself, from the group, by the same also; Germanicus, by Mr. C. G. Ehert; another view of the Theseus, by Miss Fannie Powell; the Fighting Gladiator, by Miss H. Bayliss; the Wrestlers, by Mr. Wm. S. Bloodgood; the Dancing Faun, by Mr. King; another view of the Germanicus, by Mr. Plumb; the Flying Mercury, by Mr. Thos. Shields; the Supplicating Venus, by Miss Virginia Gildersleeve; another view of the Fighting Gladiator, by Mr. G. Brush; bust of Paris, by Miss Phelps; bust of Otto, by Mr. Pitz; bust of Minos, by Miss E. Conde; bust of Euripides, by Miss A. Fitz; bust of the crowned Augustus, by Miss H. A. Granbury; another view of the Dancing Faun by Mr. Frederick Hirsh. The thirteenth has not yet decided upon, as there have been many drawings presented, out of which selection has been difficult on account of the closeness of comparative merit or from photographic considerations. This latter point is a considerable one, because the drawings are designed to render photographically on account of the points of view from which they have been taken, and for this reason several very fine drawings of busts have been rejected. The students have been singularly fortunate in their photographer, who is a wealthy amateur—Mr. Frederick Constable, of the great firm of Arnold & Constable. This gentleman takes the warmest possible interest in all art matters, and, hearing that the students had determined upon this effort, generously offered to do all their photographing for them, and so save them an important item of expenditure. As this was by no means the best part of it, Mr. Constable is a perfect master of the art of photography, and his renderings of the drawings would shame the professionals as much by their high excellence as by the patient care which he has brought to the task. It is not often in this country that the efforts of amateurs are of much value, and it is currently believed that the worst productions of professionals are better than the best of amateurs. This is a sweeping statement, but unfortunately there is considerable truth in it. Mr. Constable, however, is an exception to the rule, for, without exaggeration, he has done these drawings so well that the best professionals would find it difficult to equal them. That he should be willing to devote so much of his leisure to a work involving so much labor is a sign that among our wealthy citizens there are really some who are true lovers of art. To buy a picture, or two pictures, or a gallery full, out of the superfluity of a thrice-abundant income, is but a small matter in comparison with taking upon one's self a tiresome, laborious, and long-drawn-out job, and all this unostentatiously for the sake of helping brother art lovers.

A committee of students have waited upon the proprietors of the principal art galleries, and have not only obtained their permission to dispose of the albums in their places, but they have shown the fullest desire to assist them in finding purchasers. Arrangements have been made for handsome morocco bindings, and a titlepage has been most beautifully engraved on steel, after a design drawn by one of the students, Mr. C. G. Ebert. The intrinsic value of the album will be something more than the $50 demanded, and those who purchase can rest assured that they are doing a wise thing and a handsome, and a patriotic thing. The printing of the negatives is a labor of some magnitude, and it is therefore hard to say to a day when the albums will be brought before the public. But it is probable that this will be done either the end of the first week in January or the beginning of the second.

One of the Advantages of Bearing the Same Name—A Rare Instance of Good Fortune.

From the Norwich (Conn.) Bulletin, Dec. 24.

One of those occurrences in real life which read so much like the imaginings of a romancist is reported from New-Hampshire. Some years ago a young operative at a Great Falls cotton mill, Sarah Batillon by name, was called home to care for an invalid sister, and when the latter died the aged parents were left alone, so that Sarah seemed it her duty to stay by them, giving up her chances of worldly prosperity. Now it happened that certain small articles of personal property, which she had brought from the factory were wrapped in a stray newspaper from Louisiana, and on removing the wrapper her eye caught the family name—Batillon—upon it. After that she was moved by a strange impulse to write to this person bearing her name, and finally did so out of curiosity merely. A reply came in due time, from which it appeared that the writer must be a distant relative of the factory girl. He, it seems, lived alone and had but few friends. They corresponded three years or more, when suddenly the letters from him ceased coming. Three months intervened, and then came a lawyer's letter informing the New-Hampshire girl of the death of her relative and of her inheritance of $100,000. And she has gone with her husband to come into her fortune. But we trust that all the factory girls will not fall to writing letters to their namesakes, with the delusive hope of similar results.

Fifty-six Years of Service in One Family.

From the Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Dec. 24.

Miss Mary Warner died in Cambridgeport, Vt., on Friday, 20th inst., at the age of seventy years and two months. This announcement will be read with unfeigned sorrow by many citizens of Rutland and Bellows Falls, to whom she had endeared herself by her many acts of charity and kindness, and, although in the walks of humble life, she could number acquaintances and friends in all ranks and classes. She was familiarly known as "Polly," and was for a period of fifty-six years housekeeper in the family of Judge Baxter, (late of Bellows Falls,) deceased, and for the past ten years and up to the time of her death, with John S. Baxter, of Rutland, making fifty-six years of continuous service with two generations of the same family.

A Parambulating Small-Pox Patient.

From the Hartford Courant, Dec. 24.

A day or two ago a man arrived in this city, direct from Germany, under an engagement with a manufacturing firm here. He reported to his employer, and said he wasn't feeling well, and he was then taken to a physician. The cold hand he had the small-pox. This was a surprise all around. Next, he was introduced to the First Selectman, and was conveyed to the town-house. As soon as he made his appearance there he scared some of the inmates nearly out of their wits, and one threatened to shoot him if he didn't keep his distance. Finally he was got into the poor-house, but yesterday morning he reappeared before the gentleman who had got him over to this country, having walked in from the town farm, and said he couldn't stay out there, as he should freeze to death if he didn't starve. A room in a returned piece was then secured for him, and he will be well cared for. The man doesn't understand a word of English, and evidently hasn't much of an idea of the value put upon small-pox in this community.

THE HUDSON RIVER STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

It was a glorious day for the cause of humanity when the word "hospital" was introduced into the vocabulary of medical science in connection with the insane. "It is scarcely more than seventy years," says Dr. Willard Parker, "since in this country insanity began to be regarded as a disease, and provision began to be made for its treatment. * * * It is now known that from seventy to ninety per cent of cases of acute mania, such as are placed under scientific treatment within a year or less from the time of attack, recover, and are thus restored to their friends and to their place in the world." But till the year 1841, when the State Asylum at Utica was opened, the treatment of the insane as patients suffering from a curable disease, was confined to that class whose friends were able and willing to pay for such treatment in private institutions. For the insane poor, the old-fashioned principle of treating them simply as persons against whom society must be protected, and so confining them in the county poor-houses till mania developed into dementia, and death came to cute them of their life, still prevailed. But now, a portion of this class receive the same care and scientific treatment as hospital patients in times who can afford to pay for it. The law of 1841, which rendered patients who had undergone two years' hospital treatment at Utica without any appreciable benefit, liable to be returned as incurable to their county poor-houses, necessitated the erection of a State Asylum for the chronic insane; and the Willard Asylum was opened in 1869, at Ovid Landing, on Seneca Lake. But the provision for hospital treatment at Utica was found to be totally inadequate to the needs of the State. It could not possibly meet the immense and increasing demands for admittance; and during the session of 1868 the attention of the State Legislature was directed to the matter. It was demonstrated that, though the chronic insane may be collected together in unlimited numbers, there are limits beyond which institutions exclusively devoted to hospital or curative treatment cannot be extended without running the risk of impairing their usefulness; and it was proved conclusively from the reports of the State Asylum, at Utica, that these limits had been reached in that institution. Influenced by these considerations, the Legislature determined to erect a second State hospital in another section of the State, and they authorized the Governor to appoint Commissioners "to receive by gift, or contract for the purchase of a suitable site on or near the Hudson River, below the City of Albany, upon which to erect the Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane." The Governor appointed five Commissioners—Abiah W. Palmer, of Dutchess County; W. J. Kenyon, of Ulster; Mr. J. M. Cleveland, of Oneida; John Falconer, of New-York, and D. M. Madden, of Orange—who immediately proceeded to fulfill the duties assigned to them.

On the 8th of January, 1867, the Commissioners reported to the Governor that they had decided, after due deliberation, to "receive by gift, from the citizens of Dutchess County, a site consisting of 200 acres of land" in a "location geographically central, easily accessible by river and railway, and distinguished for its salubrity and commanding beauty," and "in the immediate neighborhood of a large and active community," the latter of which advantages they considered to be "exceedingly important." Two months later the State Legislature passed "an act to organize and establish the Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane," and authorized the Governor to appoint nine managers to receive plans and to superintend the building of the hospital, and to govern it when completed. The Governor at once appointed nine gentlemen of high social standing and position. These gentlemen soon discovered that, in order to insure the control of the stream of water rising within the limits of the property, and to secure the privacy of the exercise-grounds for the patients, it would be necessary to purchase additional land. They, therefore, bought, on their individual responsibility, for the sum of $6,000, the remaining eighty-four acres of the estate of which the land presented to the State by the citizens of Dutchess County formed a part. This action of the Board of Managers was fully approved by the next Legislature, an appropriation of $6,000 was made to pay for the extra land, and the title passed from the managers as individuals to the managers as appointees of the State.

After due consideration the managers unanimously resolved to call upon Messrs. Vaux & Withers to furnish plans for the proposed hospital. They also determined to purchase all the materials for building direct from the original producers, and to employ their own labor and their own machinery. This arrangement, of course, increased their duties to a very great extent, but it has saved to the tax-payers of the State the large profits which would otherwise have gone into the pockets of contractors, middle men, and jobbers, as the firms with whom they have dealt, knowing that they would get prompt cash payment for all orders fulfilled, have invariably been willing to supply materials of the highest class at moderate, and even below ruling market prices, and have in some instances allowed to the managers, on behalf of the State, the discount usually allowed for influencing sales.

The hospital property is situated on the east side of the river, about two miles and a half from the Poughkeepsie Railroad Depot. The site of the building is a fine bold plateau standing out from the hill-side, 186 feet above tide-water and 2,500 feet from the river. Gravel is the principal geological formation, traversed at intervals by deep veins of fine sand, and, as the ground slopes very rapidly, the drainage is perfect. The surrounding land is undulating and partly wooded, and for picturesqueness will compare with any part of the Hudson River. The view in all directions, more especially up the river, is beautiful and most extensive—a very valuable element in selecting a location for the residence of the insane. "I did not want to come here at all," said one of the patients while descanting on the lovely, bright prospect from the windows of the parlor in his ward; "but I am glad now, for I can sit at the window all day and enjoy the fresh air and beautiful scenery. It does me good and I never tire of it. And I like to watch the steamers and schooners and barges as they pass up and down the river." This poor fellow is no exception. All the patients say the same, and speak of the enjoyment they find in rambling about the grounds and on the hill-side in charge of their keepers, for all who are well enough go out walking in little parties every day when the weather is fine. Even the most excitable patients are taken out whenever they happen to have a quiet day.

But the hospital estate possesses other advantages besides pure air and picturesqueness, and those, too, of a character to materially reduce the cost of erecting the buildings. Up above the hospital, on the additional piece of land purchased by the managers, are ledges of laminated blue-stone, too compact and hard for dressing for external purposes, but admirably suited for broad base-stones and foundation-walls. There is ample material in this quarry for the entire building. On another part of the property there are two veins of coarse sand, suitable for common mortar, while from the brook which runs east from the plateau on which the building is being erected, and from a brook on the western side, a supply of water was forced into a tank by two hydraulic rams, which was sufficient for the officers' cottages, the gardens, and for all mechanical purposes, till the permanent reservoirs could be completed. These reservoirs, which are now finished and in use, are constructed at an elevation of 100 feet above the hospital. The upper or settling basin is eleven feet deep, and has a capacity of 240,000 gallons. Any impurities in the water are allowed to settle before it relies into the principal basin, which has a capacity of 1,040,000 gallons—a supply sufficient for every purpose for three months. The water is pumped up from the river through an eight-inch pipe, and conducted back to the building through a twelve-inch pipe. It took one week's pumping night and day, to fill the reservoirs. A tell-tale arrangement enables the engineer to draw the water for use from the main body at any depth where he may deem it to be most pure.

The splendid supply of water admits of the constant flushing of the water-closets, bath-rooms, and sewers. All the closets are flushed every two minutes, by means of a suspended vessel which holds about a gallon of water. It takes two minutes to fill; and, when full, it tilts over automatically, righting itself the moment it is empty.

The importance of having proper facilities for delivering materials, and transporting them to the site of the building, was one of the first matters to occupy the attention of the managers. With the exception of some recent farm tracks, there was but one road on the property; and the rise in the grade of the road was twelve feet in and hundred—far too steep for the economical transportation of heavy building materials. The managers, therefore, determined to construct a road direct from the river landing to the building site; and by skillful planning the new road was so constructed as to reduce the rise from twelve to six feet in one hundred. At the same time the road was one of the needed permanent improvements of the property. Again, the nearest dock was a mile and a half distant, and only accessible by very steep roads. The managers, with the approval of the State officials, therefore constructed a dock of their own. The wharf has a bulk-head of one hundred feet, and two piazzas, each forty feet in length. The economy of building this dock was at once apparent; for, whereas one team could only carry four and a half tons a day from the old dock, at a cost of one dollar per ton, the same team can now draw fifteen tons a day from the new dock, at a cost of only thirty cents a ton. The saving thus effected in the cost of transportation of material will amount to a large sum by the time the hospital is completed. The managers also erected their own private workshops on a spot adjacent to the building site, in which every description of work in connection with the building is done. They

THE QUAKER CITY.

Objects of Interest to the Inquiring Traveler.

Independence Hall and the Home of William Penn.

Stephen Girard and Girard College—The Eastern Penitentiary and its System—Philadelphia Markets—Gen. W. Childs and the "Public Ledger."

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

PHILADELPHIA, Saturday, Dec. 7, 1872.

There are mornings that are bright and cheerful; mornings that are gloomy and dull; mornings when "with delight we linger to survey the promised joys of life's unmeasured way;" mornings on which the lingering over the past most harmonizes with our physical and mental condition. Such a morning is sure to come, sooner or later, during a week's stay in Philadelphia, and, in spirit, one turns from the glowing present to the sober past, and rejoices in the companionship of Penn, of Franklin, of Hancock, Adams, and Duché, while strolling through streets which these stern old patriots have trod, but which, in vant phrase, knew them no more, and which they themselves certainly would not recognize, could they be awakened from the stillness of their graves. In passing through Independence Hall, the Divine command to Moses: "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground," almost compels a removal of the nineteenth century head-piece, so aptly does it come to remembrance. That "first prayer in Congress" must have, indeed, been soul-stirring to have, so "urged" the peace-loving Quaker as to bring him to the acknowledgement of the necessity of civil war. And as one sees the quaint, prim architecture of the old red brick building in which the birth of the American Union was proclaimed to the world, one can almost see the Quaker of the day crushing his broad-brim over his troubled brow as he strode away, sorrow-stricken to think that the wicked ways of the world compelled him to a course of action which his soul abhorred and condemned, and yet with every sense and nerve strained to the utmost with the conflict of emotions brought about by the clanging of the great bell, as it rung out to the citizens of Philadelphia the fact that the Declaration of American Independence had been irrevocably signed. Independence Hall is in a measure the Westminster Abbey of the American nation. It does not cover the ashes, but it preserves the memories of the great dead; and, after all, this is the grand feature of England's historic mausoleum. To my mind, the old hall in which John Hancock presided over the destiny of the patriots, the chair in which he sat, the table on which the Declaration was signed, the portraits of the patriots, and the grim looking old bell, have far more value than any bones and dust, which could bring no realization of one of the most extraordinary scenes recorded in the pages of history. And how strangely prophetical the raised inscription on the bell: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all that dwell therein." Prophetical, for the bell and its inscription were cast twenty-three years before the American colonies threw off their allegiance to their mother country. In the old Hall sat the second Congress, and by their orders the bell fulfilled the mission to which it was baptised a quarter of a century before. It is a memorial which needs no accompanying letter-press description. It tells its own tale of the birth of liberty in the New World to the stranger with more force than all the books that might be written.

A few minutes' walk from Independence Hall is another of Philadelphia's historic relics, more local than national in its interest, and, I regret to say, apparently little thought of and regarded. In a small back street, between Front and Second streets, stands a long, low, two-story brick building, with shingle roof and small windows. The bankers' clerks, the busy merchant, the bustling news-boy, the scavenger, and the wagon-driver pass it, day after day, and heed it not. To them it is either unknown or has long ceased to be an object of interest. But to the stranger, who may have more time and who naturally looks about him more, it is one of the heir-looms of a by-gone age which at once arrests his footsteps. It is the first house which William Penn inhabited in Philadelphia, and is supposed to have been built for him, in anticipation of his coming, by those of his friends who had preceded him. Tell it not in Gath; whisper it not on the streets of Askalon; the former home of the great Quaker founder of the State of Pennsylvania is now a liquor saloon of an inferior class. It is actually known as the William Penn Hotel. But the deaf Dutchman who keeps it is probably in blissful ignorance of the history and character of the man whose portrait and whose name he still thinks it worth while to keep up as an outside sign to attract customers to his house. Indeed, were he a student of history he would assuredly think more of the colored laborers who make his place a house of call, who eat their corned beef and cabbage and gulp down their five cent tumblers of filthy whisky, than of the memories of a thousand such men as William Penn. Why, today I have informed no less than three highly educated and thoughtful gentlemen that Penn's house may still be seen and visited by those previously unaware of the fact. It is the old story, that "a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country." Few visitors to Philadelphia, I imagine, leave the city without having first paid a visit to this relic of the past. Philadelphians, to the manner born, who do so, appear to be exceptions to a very general rule. I might almost say the same of the grave of the great Benjamin Franklin. So plain and unpretending is the slab which marks the spot where America's great philosopher lies buried, that, unless sought for, it would be unnoticed. Franklin's grave is in the extreme corner of the burial-ground located at the corner of Arch and Fifth streets. It is within a foot or two of the sidewalk on Arch-street, and is visible to the passer-by through a convenient strip of iron railing. It is only raised a few inches from the ground, and is utterly devoid of carving or ornament. In plain letters, near the upper end of the stone, is the inscription:

BENJAMIN AND DEBORAH FRANKLIN. 1790.

This is all that the grave-stone of one of the most honored and most remarkable of America's children records. There is no date of birth or death, no record of age, no allusion to the great philosopher's world-renowned discoveries and achievements. Well, in these days of elaborate tombs and ostentatious burial, for men whose only claim to distinction was large and, maybe, dishonestly accumulated wealth, it is, perhaps, more in keeping with his life and character that Franklin's dust should lie beneath a simple slab, leaving the bare mention of his name to mark the spot.

Whether Philadelphia has had advantages which her leading sister cities have not possessed, is no affair of mine; but she seems to have been blessed with citizens actuated not by the religious, so much as by the philanthropic, spirit of Penn. Every generation seems to have produced its representative Philadelphia; every era in the history of Philadelphia seems to be inseparably connected with the records of men who have left their mark behind them as an attestation that they have passed through the troubles of Philadelphian life with honor to themselves. Stephen Girard! There is the Girard Bank, the Girard Insurance Office, the Girard-avenue, &c.; and last, though by far the greatest memorial of the old French skipper, there is the Girard College. That College is as much a testimony to the liberal spirit characteristic of this city as it is an honorable monument to the memory of Mr. Girard, eccentric as many believe him to have been, and as he undoubtedly was. His will, bequeathing an estate of forty-five acres of land and $2,000,000 in money for the purpose of erecting and conducting the College, is in itself a masterpiece of combined illiberality and narrow-mindedness. None will question Mr. Girard's liberality and philanthropy in devoting so large a portion of his hard-earned fortune to so laudable a purpose, and yet, this same man confines his posthumous charity to "poor *white* male orphans," and, after saying, "I do not forbid, but I do not recommend, the Greek and Latin languages" as branches of study, while including such abstruse studies as "astronomy, natural, chemical, and experimental philosophy" in the curriculum which he lays out for the instruction of the children, he winds up by enjoining and requiring that "no ecclesiastic missionary, or minister of any sect whatsoever, shall ever hold or exercise any station or duty whatever in said college; nor shall any such person ever be admitted for any purpose, or at a visitor, within the premises appropriated to the purposes of said college." When I presented my tickets of admission to the porter at the College-lodge this morning, I found myself unconsciously regarding my costume, and considering whether it in any way partook of a clerical character. A moment's afterthought, however, convinced me that no sane man would ever accuse me of being priest or parson, and I was soon laughing over the idea with Prof. Allen, the President of the College. "Do you strictly enforce this anti-clerical regulation?" I asked of Mr. Allen. "Yes; the law compels me to do so," he replied; "if any clergyman finds his way in here, he does so with a surprised air," and then he laughingly added: "I recalled an incident in this regard. A gentleman, with a clerical look about him, once presented a pass to the janitor. The janitor eyed him up and down, and then said: 'I cannot admit you, Sir; you are a clergyman.' 'The devil I am!' exclaimed the visitor, who was a banker or merchant, or engaged in some kind of business. 'You can pass!' was the quiet rejoinder of the janitor. He knew at once that any one using such an expression was not likely to infringe on the provisions of Mr. Girard's will. He was not likely to be imbued with any peculiar theological theories, or to have convictions about any special routes to Heaven. But," added Dr. Allen, "we must not, and do not, admit a clergyman, if we know or believe him to be one." That Mr. Girard had the right to bar all ecclesiastics from the doors of his college, the Pennsylvania Law Courts have decreed; but I think the majority of the world will be disposed to question the wisdom of, even if they do not directly condemn, the shutting out all clerical visitors from an institution which must necessarily be most interesting to them. Nor will they readily indorse the interdiction against religious teachings (an interdiction to some extent already evaded,) so sternly enjoined by Mr. Girard. It is an ordinance, perhaps, welcome to the hearts of the men whom Boston delights to style her "advanced thinkers;" but, here in Philadelphia, there is just a lingering desire that "old man Girard" had been a little less odd in his notions about the fitness of things in general, and religion in particular.

The Girard College, that is, the main building, is, perhaps, the finest specimen of pure Corinthian architecture to be met with in this country. The College and the other buildings, in which the boys eat, drink, sleep, and have their animal being, stand in an area of forty-five acres. As far as I can judge, the working of the College is singularly successful, considering the hampering stipulations of the will of the founder. It can accommodate about six hundred boys. They must be admitted between the ages of six and ten years, and must be indentured by their mother, if they have one, or by their natural guardian, if she be dead, to the city till they attain the age of twenty-one years. A sort of pre-emptive right of admission to the College is given to certain streets and sections of the city, &c.; but any orphan can claim and obtain admission, if there be room for him. The education is of a character far beyond the reach of ordinary poor boys. The young Girardians are well fed, clothed, and housed, and their future in life is one of the great objects of the institution. As soon as they are old enough and opportunity presents itself, they are apprenticed out to some useful trade or business, suitable to their mental capacity and acquirements, and likely to be *venue* in life in which they have a good chance of success. They can learn everything in the College, with one or two notable exceptions, from farm-laboring to the highest branches of mathematics. In what is known as the "director's room," there are a collection of more than praiseworthy designs, sketches, and drawings from models, all made by the boys, hung on the walls. They have natural history cabinets and classes; laboratories where Professors instruct them, with illustrative experiments, in chemistry; class-rooms for mathematics, astronomy, and all rudimentary branches of education; and they have—heaven be praised!—good play-grounds. The truth of the old proverb that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," seems to be thoroughly appreciated by the authorities. I had a long talk with one of the boys, and I learned from him that their play-hours are in just proportion to the school-hours. It seems a pity that so noble an institution, so nobly founded, should suffer from the one or two drawbacks to which I have alluded. In the entrance-way of the central college-building is the tomb of Mr. Girard. Before it is his statue. It represents a small, bright, intelligent-faced looking little man, clean shaven, finely dressed after the style of a hundred years ago, and with just the cast of feature so characteristic of the men who forced the brutalities of the revolution while welcoming what they deemed to be the dawning of liberty and freedom, and cursed the hour when poor France degenerated into the despotism of the First Empire, as Girard probably did, and certainly would have done had he not adopted the newly-born United States as his country. In one of the upper rooms of the College is a museum, which I venture to say is as unique as any to be found in the world. It comprises the furniture of Mr. Girard's house, from his Louis XIV. clock to his potato-dish; but, I think, not his tooth-brush; his pictures, including a youthful portrait of his wife, his wardrobe, his nick-nacks, and even the old-fashioned gig, or char-à-banc, in which he drove about the city.

The carriage is tolerably ancient in style, and its cushions and linings are very much moth-eaten. But it is not difficult to picture to one's self this keen-visaged, money-making, little French skipper driving away from his country-house in the afternoon, and chuckling to himself over the masterly way in which he had circumvented some astute old disciple of William Penn in the morning. One can almost fancy, too, that nine hours his *ex ne fait rien*, if the loss of a vessel, or some European disturbance, or an unexpected political event in connection with Presidential elections, should have wiped out a few thousand dollars from his profit and loss account for the year. *Ici repose le corps* says every tombstone in a French churchyard. So says Philadelphia of Stephen Girard, and every Philadelphian fills in the encomiums which ordinarily follow, according to his fancy. Mr. Girard's benefaction to this city was certainly a noble one in principle and a princely one in money value.

From Girard College it is but a few minutes' walk to the Eastern Penitentiary, one of the two State Prisons of Philadelphia. This prison is considered to be a model representative of the solitary-confinement system. Its plan of construction is singular, but admirably adapted to the prevention of escape. The building stands in the centre of a plot of ten acres, and is surrounded by a stone wall thirty-five feet high. It consists of seven corridors, four of which have two stories, radiating from a large central apartment like the spokes from the hub of a wheel, the tiers of cells being on either side the corridors. By this arrangement the guard in the centre commands a bird's-eye view of the entire prison. With the exception of those who are employed in doing the ordinary work of the prison, no prisoner ever leaves his cell from the time of his commitment till his term of State service has expired. He has his weaving loom, or his tools and materials for making cane chairs, in his cell. His cell is his work-shop. Thus he is entirely cut off from all communication with his fellow-prisoners, and has no opportunity of attending what has been aptly termed the school of crime. The principle of solitary confinement has many advocates on the ground that as criminals are arrested, tried and sentenced as individuals, they should be punished as individuals. But I think the more important features of the system is the impossibility of the chances of reformation being counteracted by evil associations in prison. Such places as Sing Sing are mere colleges where lads receive an education in the higher branches of crime, and become confirmed criminals. Some of the most daring burglaries have actually been planned and plotted within the walls of Sing Sing. No one will deny that the punishment of criminals is deterrent, not revengeful. Society confines the criminal to prevent his further indulgence in crime, and in the hope of his reformation. But, as the management of prisons is ordinarily conducted, it cuts the ground from under its own feet by placing the confirmed criminal side by side with the unconfirmed criminal, who soon makes the new-comer as determined a law-breaker as himself. This school of crime is not available to the prisoner under the solitary system. In his *American Notes*, Charles Dickens tells of his visit to this very Penitentiary, and deprecates its system. He speaks of one Charles Langheimer, a convict, who, he prophesied, would soon succumb to the effects of solitary confinement. Mr. Dickens is dead. Charles Langheimer is alive, well, hearty, and cheerful. He is in the prison now for the third or fourth time, for larceny. I had a long chat with him. He says he is very happy and comfortable, and much prefers his present residence to any other prison in which he has been confined. He is now seventy years old, and has been in jail half his life. The walls of his cell are marvels of decorative art. They are elaborately frescoed from top to bottom, in a style that no artist need be ashamed of. If this man would only be honest, he could certainly earn the very highest wages as a fresco-painter. Some of the other cells have been painted in the same way by him. I saw the cell lately occupied by C. T. Yerkes. He, too, took to frescoing, and, though his work is not nearly so elaborate or artistic as that of Langheimer, it is not wanting in taste and effect. Many of the prisoners have their cells very comfortably furnished by the friends, the privilege being granted to all who behave well. The cells are much larger and more convenient than is generally the case. The library is at the service of the prisoners, and they are allowed to read till 9 o'clock, when the gas is turned off. In fact, the whole system pursued in the prison seems founded on the idea of humanizing the convicts, while they are kept out of harm's way.

In strolling about Philadelphia a New-Yorker cannot fail to be attracted by the splendid public markets to be found in all sections of the city. They are in marked contrast with such miserable places as Fulton and Washington Markets in New-York. Large and lofty buildings laid out in long, broad aisles for stands, extreme cleanliness, and good order are their great features. All the salesmen look bright and fresh from the country, and wear the whitest of white aprons and sleeves, or the old-fashioned white smock frock. Their meat, poultry, butter, and vegetables are displayed in tempting and appetizing array; civility and a quiet demeanor seem the universal rule among them. The rum-selling, tobacco-chewing, foul-mouthed market-man of New-York is unknown here. I passed through three or four of these markets today, and I did not hear a single oath or blasphemous expression. How the housekeepers of New-York who are compelled to go to the down-town markets would bless such a state of things could it be inaugurated for their benefit. There are a score or more of these markets in different parts of the city. But Philadelphia is throughout a remarkably clean-looking place. The frequent use of white marble as a building material, and the almost invariable use of it for door-steps, copings, window-sills, and facings, gives a clean look and freshness to the street architecture which is very pleasing; and every householder seems to take a pride in having his marble steps kept immaculately white. Some of the marble stores on Chestnut-street are very fine. Their proprietors seem to have studied the French practice of making an attractive show of their goods in the windows, and, just at this holiday time, some of them are as rich and gorgeous in appearance as an Oriental bazaar. Chestnut-street, with its hotels and shop-windows, makes a very enjoyable loafing-ground on a fine afternoon. And then, at the corner of Sixth-street, is the splendid pile of the Ledger Building, which Mr. George Childs, while thinking that he was only providing himself with a handsome and commodious place of business, was really erecting a lasting monument commemorative of his untiring energy and enterprise. The *Ledger* is a great institution here. Fast-ness take it and read it as religiously as they say their prayers, and the very remarkable feature of newspaper business is shown in the fact that nearly the entire circulation of the *Ledger*—amounting to eighty-five thousand copies—is delivered by carriers at the houses of regular subscribers. Few copies of the paper are sold at the news-stands, simply because all have their family copy at home. I asked Mr. Childs the other day what is the secret of his great and unprecedented success. "It is this," he replied: "Reliability, responsibility, and advertisements as advertisements. We prefer to suppress news rather than publish matter which we are not sure of. I will not allow a line to go into the paper that is unfit for the eye of the most refined woman. We never insert advertisements as general reading matter." Thus Mr. Childs gives his fellow-citizens a newspaper that they can swear by, and place in the hands of their children without fear. He has his reward. Beginning life in poverty, he is today one of the wealthiest and most influential of Philadelphia's citizens.

ALABAMA FINANCES.

The Great Cost of Democratic Misrule, as Illustrated in This Unhappy State.

From the Montgomery (Ala.) Journal, Dec. 22.

With the exception of the few months of provisional government immediately succeeding the war, and the two years of Gov. Smith's administration, what was known in ante-bellum times as the Democratic Party, and now known as the Democratic and Conservative, (Heaven shield us from such conservators!) has been in power, and has exercised almost absolute control of affairs in Alabama ever since the State was admitted into the Union. The financial record which this party can lay beside its name is creditable to it, not it is a pleasing one for thrifty tax-payers or conscientious and capable legislators to contemplate.

The direct indebtedness of the State, as shown by the Auditor's report for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1872, is $9,065,441 65, and consists of the following items, viz.:

Aggregate bonded debt	$5,501,000 00
University fund	500,000 00
Sixteenth section fund	1,785,205 83
Swamp land fund	97,000 17
Marine revenue fund	80,000 00
Outstanding State certificates	85,000 00
Outstanding Auditor's warrants	197,236 31
Temporary loan from Latimer, Durr & Co.	4,000 00
Total	$8,065,441 65

Of this amount, $5,501,000 00 bear interest which amounts annually to the sum of $303,750 00.

By unwise, not to say reckless legislation, the Democratic Party has created the greater portion of this debt—nine-tenths of it at least. As a specimen, we cite the investments and subsequent total loss of a large portion of this amount in the State Bank and its branches, which were managed by Democratic directors chosen by Democratic Legislatures. There is not one dollar's worth of anything to show for the expenditure of this vast sum; and nothing by means of which the State can ever hope to be reimbursed. Such is the sad story of the debit side of profit and loss—a forcible reminder of Democratic folly and incapacity.

Whatever of indebtedness was created during the war was declared void and void by the terms of reconstruction, and therefore does not enter into this almost current of the Democratic Party with the tax-payers of Alabama.

The credit of the State, which was left almost prostrate at the close of the war, was re-established and placed on a firm basis during the Republican administration of Gov. Smith, and no State had better credit, or stood fairer in the great money centres of the world than did Alabama at the close of his term of office—an assertion we can prove by him, and our indorsed railroad bonds found ready sale at prices even greater than that fixed by law as the lowest for which they should be sold. Two years of Democratic rule have changed all this, and the credit of the State has sunk so low that it is disheartening to think of it.

Under Gov. Lindsay the State undertook to operate the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad, and sunk money in the experiment—how much is not known. Of the fund realized from the sale of the "Agricultural College Land Scrip," $165,000 are unaccounted for; our State bonds, to the amount of $60,000, have been sold by financial agents, and are unaccounted for; a large number of our bonds have been hypothecated, and are about to be lost for want of means to redeem them; outstanding claims, amounting in the aggregate to nearly $1,000,000, have been left for the present Administration to pay, and providing for our Common-school fund has been exhausted, and education languishes throughout the State; our lands are without a market; our warrants are being hawked about the streets, and can be sold only at a ruinous discount; our officers are unpaid; our treasury is empty, and our State is on the verge of bankruptcy.

The Disposition Efforts to Relieve the Sister States from Some of Scandal.

From the Montgomery (Ala.) State Journal, Dec. 22.

In the legal Senate, on Friday, two very important bills were considered and passed unanimously. Mr. Wilson, of Montgomery, introduced a bill to authorize Gov. Lewis to complete the sale of the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad to the English company. He supported the measure in a few pertinent, forcible remarks, which demonstrated its vital importance and the necessity of speedy passage. By this bill, the State will at once be relieved of a very heavy elephant bequeathed from the Lindsay administration.

Mr. Pennington introduced a bill of vital importance relative to the present desperate finances of Alabama. It authorizes the Governor to sell two million dollars of State bonds in order to meet speedily nearly one and a half million dollars of obligation bequeathed also by the late unfortunate Democratic administration; as also, to provide means to pay off other obligations as they may mature. Mr. Pennington urged its passage in his characteristically forcible style. These measures in connection, with a bill raising the rate of taxation passed on yesterday, will restore the State credit, and place Alabama again on the high road of prosperity. All honor to Republican Senators for their wise financial measures.

The Relief Funds of Boston.

From the Boston Journal, Dec. 20.

The money sent to the Relief Committee, of which Hon. Otis Norcross is Treasurer, is used by the Executive Committee to relieve the necessities of all who suffered by the fire. Their aid is also given to all firemen who were injured, and to the families of firemen who were killed, wherever they live. It is proposed not only to relieve the widows and orphans of these firemen, but if possible place a sum of money in trust for their benefit.

Mr. John S. Damrell has also been the recipient of certain sums of money, some of which the donors have designated as intended for the Charitable Association of the Boston Fire Department. Mr. Damrell has handed over to the treasurer of that association such sums. Other sums placed in Mr. Damrell's hands without instructions are used by him for the relief of cases of suffering among firemen, as may be personally known to him.

The treasurer of the Charitable Association of the Boston Fire Department, Mr. David Ward, acknowledges the receipt of $7,500, which goes to increase the permanent fund of the organization, the interest of which is expended in relieving those members of the Association who are in need. It is an excellent institution, and the fund is carefully administered.

There is no conflict of interest between the trustees of these funds, and we state the above facts for the information of the public.

Probable Homicide.

Coroner Young was yesterday notified to take the ante-mortem statement of John O'Hare, who, on Tuesday evening, was fatally injured by blows from a hatchet wielded by John Fitzgibbons. The men were good friends, and occupied adjoining apartments on the third floor of No. 308 East Forty-sixth-street. On Tuesday night both became intoxicated, and about 1 A. M. Fitzgibbons knocked at his friend's door, and on being refused admittance burst the lock and then returned to his room. O'Hare followed him, remonstrating, and on reaching his room Fitzgibbons procured a small hatchet from his closet and dealt O'Hare a severe blow on the head. He struck again and again, inflicting several deep wounds, and finally Officer Connelly, of the Nineteenth Precinct, arrived and carried Fitzgibbons to the Station-house. O'Hare was attended by Dr. Benton, who pronounced the wounds fatal. He was removed to Bellevue, where he now lies in a critical condition.

Attempted Assassination by an Italian.

On Tuesday night, Joseph Barnabo, an Italian, got drunk, and going to his home at No. 141 Leonard-street, threatened the life of his wife, who, to escape him, fled to the house of Joseph Scopelino, No. 20 Baxter-street. Barnabo followed, and, on being ejected by Scopelino, drew a pistol and fired it at the latter. The ballet lodged in the door, and the would-be assassin was locked up at the Tombs for trial.

THE CURRENCY—RESUMPTION.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In the letter published in your issue of the 18th inst., entitled "Our Currency and the Banks," there are several statements which a Merchant's consideration will show to be erroneous. Thus, the writer says: "The national banks, with an aggregate capital of $450,000,000, have, actually locked up, more than $320,000,000." &c. The use of the term "locked up" in this connection is liable to be misunderstood, as it has been so currently used to describe a process by which the circulating medium has been withdrawn from use in order to create a temporary scarcity, that to a careless reader it at once conveys that idea, whereas the evident intention of the writer was merely to say that the banks were debarred from the use of so much of their capital as was invested in bonds. Let us see whether this is strictly true. If the sum named as capital is invested in bonds to secure circulation, and as it is a well-known fact that national bank notes, once put in circulation, are seldom returned for redemption, except perhaps, when too much mutilated for further use, should not the circulating notes received and issued by the banks be deducted from the total sum from the active use of which they are debarred?

Again, as the money paid by the banks for the bonds still remains in circulation, much of it, indeed most of it, finds its way back to them in the shape of deposits. The only portion of the circulating medium which is really "locked up" is such an amount of legal-tender notes as the law compels the banks to hold in reserve, and such portion of the national bank notes as remain unissued in the vaults of the banks. These sums, together with the average currency balance of the Treasury, deducted from the total of legal tender and national bank notes, show the true volume of the currency.

Again, your correspondent proposes that the Government shall take so many of the bonds belonging to the national banks as will, at their market value, cover the amount of national bank notes outstanding, and assume the payment thereof—thus making them, to all intents and purposes, equal to greenbacks. Who is to determine the market value of $500,000,000 of bonds, and how is the consent of the owners to be obtained to such a measure? For, without such consent, they cannot be taken, as your correspondent himself admits when he says, "not one dollar of these pledged bonds are available for the redemption of their circulating notes until after the failure of a bank." The bonds deposited by the banks are their property, and cannot be taken from them without their consent, as long as they continue to fulfill the conditions under which they were deposited.

A bill recently introduced in Congress looks to the accomplishment of this same result by a different and decidedly more practicable process, viz., that the Treasury Department shall retire all national notes received by it to the banks, requiring them to redeem and cancel them, withdrawing a proportionate amount of pledged bonds, the national notes so retired to be replaced by legal tenders, thus gradually substituting the one for the other. All these measures, however, look to the same end, viz., the withdrawal of the demand obligations of the Government, which has already about some $600,000,000 promises to pay which it cannot redeem. If we ever expect to resume specie payments, the amount of such obligations should not be increased, for it must be clear to all that the Government cannot resume until it has either withdrawn the legal-tender notes from circulation, or has provided for their redemption in coin on presentation.

The fact that the laws made for the protection of the creditors of individuals cannot operate against the Governments does not make it right or wise for the Government to disregard the principles upon which those laws are founded. There is no reason why the rules which govern the affairs of individuals should not apply equally to those of the people as a whole, and as that man is solvent who meets every obligation in *the order of its maturity*, it follows that *provision for the redemption of the legal-tender notes becomes the first duty of the Government.* I say *provision* for their redemption advisedly, for the actual *payment* of demand obligations is not a condition of solvency, but *resistance to just* such demands on call is *indispensable.*

Moreover, the difficulties in the way of actual redemption of the legal-tender notes are manifold; first, the wide difference existing in the minds of our legislators, even among those of the same political persuasion, regarding the proper course to be pursued in the management of our financial affairs, renders it very difficult to secure any action which will tend to disturb the volume of the currency, either by way of contraction or expansion. Secondly occur the practical difficulties in the way of any plan which shall take legal-tender notes out of circulation. By law the national banks are required to retain in their vaults fifteen to twenty-five per cent. of their liabilities in either coin or legal-tender notes. Should the latter be withdrawn, the banks would be forced to substitute coin in their reserves, which they would be obliged to purchase and withhold from circulation, thus creating a demand for the precious metal that would tend to advance the premium, create a scarcity, and thus increase the difficulties in the way of a return to specie payment, and, as the banks would be obliged to hold the coin so purchased permanently the premium paid for it would be a total loss to them.

The proposition to issue compound interest notes, which should gradually be substituted for legal tenders, does not meet with universal favor, because its tendency is to contraction by a gradual locking up of such notes as the interest accumulates, while nothing is provided to take their place in general circulation—and any plan, to be popular, must avoid anything which either increases or diminishes *by force of law* the volume of our circulating medium. The great object to be attained is to make our paper-money equal, dollar for dollar, to coin, and to render it flexible, so that, without any pressure of law, its volume shall be regulated by the necessities of trade. Just so long as our national banks are not required to redeem their issues in coin, their notes will be kept in circulation to the full amount permitted by law, but were they required to redeem them in coin, they would only issue them when the demands of trade were such as to promise a period of circulation sufficient to pay a profit over the cost of redemption. This would occur periodically when money would be in demand for the movement of the crops, and the notes issued for such purposes would, when the pressure was relieved, flow back and be redeemed, instead of, as now, lying in the vaults of the New-York banks, useful only to foster speculations of stock operators. It would then be safe to remove the limitations as to the issues of national banks, and to allow such institutions to be organized wherever they are required by trade and commerce, for their notes, being when redeemed in coin, would not be, as now, taken up, regulated by the demands of business more wisely and surely than it is possible to do by law. It would probably be necessary to require the banks of each State or section to redeem their issues at some central point, to prevent their establishment at inaccessible places for purposes of circulation only, as was done in Illinois before the war.

It would seem unwise to overthrow the national bank system, when, by the slight changes here indicated, it can be made to answer the requirements of the country much more fully than any system ever devised; for under its operation banks would be organized wherever their circulation could be profitably used, thus tending to equalize the supply as all points, and to prevent large accumulations at money centres and consequent disturbance of rates of interest. The injustice of discriminating against one form of our debt in favor of another is so obvious as to require extended remark—it is sufficiently evidenced by the relative values of five-twenty bonds and greenbacks, the former selling at par in gold, while the latter will bring but eighty-five to ninety per cent., both being equally sacred promises to pay.

To equalize the values of the interest and non-interest bearing obligations of the Government, let Congress authorize the creation of a new loan, equal in amount to the total of our legal-tender and fractional notes payable in twenty-thirty years, at such a rate of interest as shall, all things considered, secure the best price. Let so much of this loan as may be necessary be placed upon the market, at home or abroad, and sold for gold, the proceeds to be deposited in the Treasury, and held sacred to the redemption of the legal-tender notes, the law, "Legal tender, one!" then to be repealed, and greenbacks at once become the equivalent of coin, because payable in coin on demand. If, then, there is a superabundance of circulation, the notes of our national banks will be returned to the banks by which they were issued, which, presumed, they will do only when local-tender notes to the Treasury, though the probable practical operation would be that, by securing common local tenders, gold would be received as coin in all such cases, and would continue to circulate largely in lieu of coin, being converted only as specie might be required for foreign shipment. The fact that the Government maintains a surplus income of over twenty millions of coin certificates shows clearly that the people only need to be assured that they have something which will bring coin on demand, and do not require the coin itself; and if, after the repeal of the "Legal-tender act," the various Sub-Treasuries were made redemption agencies, the circulation of legal-tender notes or coin certificates would continue very large.

The advantages of this plan are manifold; no violent disturbance of the money markets is involved, the publicity given to the subject by the present agitation of resumption, and there face for a time every one, and the time thus necessarily elapse before the final consummation of the plan, enables them to prepare for the speedy extinguishment of the gold premium. Probably from the commencement of the agitation of the subject in Congress we should see a general hoarding of greenbacks for gold, and, at the final passage of the measure, an entire extinguishment of the premium on the latter, without awaiting the actual repeal of the Legal-tender act, which all would see must follow.

Some plausible objections have been urged against the plan here presented, among which is that it involves the increase of our interest-bearing debt, and though it does undoubtedly swell the principal on which we pay interest, it may not greatly increase the amount paid for interest, for the reason that the money we now provide for that purpose, calculated at ten per cent., would pay the interest on a new loan of an amount equal to one-half our present greenback circulation, which would probably be sufficient for the purpose contemplated. Here, too, we are met by the argument that it obviates the difficulty of the reversion, when the rate of premium on gold may be, as it derives enough, and more, from duties on imports to pay its entire gold interest. This is answered by asking what is the Government, is it not the people? Is the money paid into the Treasury, in the shape of duties, the very gold with which the interest is paid, and to obtain it do not the people pay the current premium, and is it not therefore true that every dollar paid in gold for interest comes from the people, and therefore the Government is a dollar and ten or fifteen cents, as the case may be? This objection is but another proof that we are too apt to regard the Government as one thing and the people as another, while the true Republican doctrine is that the Government *is the people*, the *debt the people's debt.*

NEW-YORK, Saturday, Dec. 21, 1872.

A Troublesome Article to Move Under Your Coat.

From the Bridgeport (Conn.) Standard, Dec. 21.

Persons who keep a revolver under their pillow at night, and their watch, too, should be extremely careful when they take out the watch to see what time of night it is. A prominent man of the town accidentally discharged a revolver under his pillow Saturday night while getting out his watch, but, fortunately, the position of the weapon was such that the bullet did not hit him, but lodged in the wall. The inmates of the house were not a little frightened by the report of a pistol at the dead hour of night.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

BANKING OFFICE OF FISK & HATCH, NEW-YORK, Dec. 26, 1872.

THE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO RAILROAD is almost completed; its immediate prospect of business is very large; its earnings on the disconnected portions will reach this year nearly $1,000,000, without integral or through business, from which its revenues as a completed road will be largely derived; coal mining, iron furnaces, rolling mills and manufactories of all kinds will soon crowd its whole line; while the producing West and manufacturing East are eagerly awaiting the opening of this new Trunk Line, which is destined to have so important an influence upon the transportation of their products.

THE FIRST MORTGAGE SIX PER CENT. GOLD BONDS of the Company, the total amount of which is only $15,000,000, are secured upon a property worth $35,000,000 to $40,000,000, and are fully equal in intrinsic value to the CENTRAL PACIFIC BONDS. They are issued in denominations of $100, $500, and $1,000, coupon or registered, and at their present market price, 85 and accrued interest, are very desirable.

THE CENTRAL PACIFIC SIX PER CENT. GOLD BONDS are too well known to require description or commendation. Their total amount is $25,985,000; they have for a long time ranged in market price near or above par—the price today being 103 to 104, with coupon on due Jan. 1, of 3 per cent. gold.

THE WESTERN PACIFIC SIX PER CENT. GOLD BONDS amount to $1,726,000. This road is now consolidated with the CENTRAL PACIFIC, and the payment of its bonds, principal and interest, is assumed by them. Their market price today is 92 to 93½, also with a 3 per cent. gold coupon on the January 1. As they have recently been introduced on the Stock Exchange, we expect to see them rapidly rise to the price of CENTRAL PACIFICS, being substantially the same in character and value.

THE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO, THE CENTRAL and WESTERN PACIFIC BONDS, all of which have been negotiated by us, we believe to be among the best and most desirable Investment Securities in the market, which in time must become very scarce; especially as the Government will probably, during the coming year, pay off in gold another large lot of FIVE-TWENTIES, and issue in their place FIVE PER CENT. BONDS.

We buy and sell, as usual, Government Bonds, receive deposits, on which we allow interest, make collections, and conduct a general banking business in all its branches.

FISK & HATCH.

TO GUARDIANS AND EXECUTORS.

THE EQUITABLE TRUST COMPANY—Capital, $1,000,000—are offering First Mortgage Real Estate Bonds, guaranteed by themselves, 8 per cent. secured interest. Every Bond is secured by Real Estate of double value, appraised under the most rigid rules, and approved by the following Executive Committee: ROBERT LENOX KENNEDY, ADRIAN ISELIN, JOHN D. MAXWELL, CHARLES BUTLER, SAMUEL WILLETS, EUGENE KELLY, PETER MCMARTIN, WM. RUSSELL, and HENRY P. HAVEN.

JONATHAN EDWARDS, President.
No. 78 Cedar-st., New-York.

☞ BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS AND MINNESOTA RAILROAD FIRST MORTGAGE CONVERTIBLE SINKING FUND GOLD 7 PER CENT. BONDS, Coupon and Registered, yielding over nine per cent., for sale and recommended as an undoubted security and a safe and profitable investment, by

HENRY CLEWS & CO., No. 32 Wall-st.

BANKING-HOUSE OF HENRY CLEWS & CO., NO. 32 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK.

Bills of Exchange, Circular Notes, Travelers' and Commercial Credits issued, available in all parts of the world.

Deposits received, subject to check on demand. Interest allowed on all Daily Balances, every accommodation and facility afforded usual with City Banks.

☞ WE HAVE FOR SALE the small amount remaining of the Seven per Cent. Gold First Mortgage Bonds of the CHICAGO, DANVILLE AND VINCENNES RAILROAD, whose net earnings are largely in excess of interest upon its bonded debt. For particulars apply to

W. B. SHATTUCK & CO.,
No. 23 Nassau-st., New-York.

TRUSTEE CERTIFICATES OF THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY,

Representing the interests of the stockholders in the assets of the Company previous to Dec. 20, 1868, bought at the office of

WILLIAMS & BOSTWICK,
No. 39 Wall-st., New-York.

☞ WE OFFER THE BALANCE OF THE First Mortgage (only $6,000 per mile) Eight Per Cent. Gold Guaranty Coupon Bonds of the Logansport, Crawfordsville, and South-western Railway of Indiana. This road is finished and equipped, and already does a large business in the transportation of black coal.

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☞ CHICAGO, BURLINGTON AND QUINCY R. R. CO. FIVE PER CENT. GUARANTEED BONDS, COUPON OR REGISTERED, FOR SALE BY RIDER & FRANCIS, 2 PINE-ST., NEAR PEARL-ST.

☞ THE SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST due Jan. 1, 1873, on the Annapolis and St. Louis Railroad Consolidated Mortgage Bonds, will be paid on or after that date at the office of BROWN BROTHERS & CO.

THE MUSEUM FIRE.

A Rigid Investigation as to the Cause Proceeding.

**Testimony of Employes of the Circus—The Story of Narrow

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DEC. 26, 1872.

Amusements This Evening.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—ROUND THE CLOCK.—Mrs. John Wood, Mme. Emma Howson, Mr. John Brougham.

BOOTH'S THEATER.—HAMLET.—Mr. Edwin Booth.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—BROTHER SAM.—Mr. E. Sothern, Mr. John Gilbert, Miss Ada Gorman.

UNION-SQUARE THEATRE.—THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.—Mr. Mark Smith, Mrs. Clara Jennings.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.—FALSE SHAME.—Mr. George Clarke, Miss Clara Morris.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—LES CHEF VERSION.—Mlle. Alexis, M. Jullien.

BIJOU GARDEN.—LEO AND LOTOS.—Mr. M. W. Fiske, Mr. Lodlingwell, Mlle. Diani.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE AND CURIOSITIES.—Afternoon and evening.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.—ETHIOPIAN MINSTRELSY.—Dan Bryant, Seymour, Reed.

ST. JAMES THEATRE.—SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—Birch, Wambold, Backus and others.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

The New-York Times.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES is a non-partisan family paper, all objectionable advertisements being rigidly excluded; and it has a constantly increasing circulation among the most respectable classes of the community.

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The DAILY TIMES, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday Edition 10
The Sunday Edition, per annum 2
The EUROPEAN EDITION, per annum, postage extra. 5

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The SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, per annum 2 00

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Terms, cash in advance.

A very full summary of news, and many general articles of great interest, are published in the Semi-weekly edition, and in the Weekly edition there is an unabridged report of the proceedings at the Plymouth Club, an excellent summary of political information, and a great variety of matter suitable for family reading.

THE NEW-YORK TIMES,
New-York City.

To Advertisers.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 54 West 33d-st., Junction of Broadway and 6th-av.; No. 308 West 53d-st., opposite Grand Opera-house, at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

If we had defended the recent little transaction between JAY GOULD and the Erie Directors, the *Nation* would certainly have opposed it. As we opposed it, the *Nation*, of course, defends it, and it does so on the following "high moral grounds," to wit: Mr. GOULD could not have made "enough by the rise in stock to compensate him for his display of virtue." Thus, we see, that the principle involved goes for nothing—everything turns on the question, how much did JAY GOULD make? Again, the *Nation* pleads in behalf of GOULD that his motives in making the "restitution" were "mixed," and that the Erie Directors could not have brought GOULD to justice without great difficulty. Therefore, if you cannot bring a criminal to justice easily, let him go. GOULD has now the *Nation* and the *Tribune* on his side, so we are inclined to think those people must be wrong who say that GOULD is a swindler, and that it is a public scandal to see the corporation which he has plundered making terms with him.

All sorts of queer and unexpected things are happening every day, but the ordinary ups and downs of life had not prepared us for the appearance of the following paragraph in the *Sun*:

"We wish even the wicked TIMES a merry Christmas. We wish it were less wicked and more merry. * * * We cheerfully forgive the TIMES for all its abuse and injustice during the past year, in consideration of its redeeming, great, noble charity toward the poor children, and heartily wish it a merry Christmas without saying anything more about its being wicked. It really does us good to speak out this merited word of praise, which has been in our heart toward it ever since it entered upon its charitable work last Summer."

We quote this, partly in a fit of astonishment, partly because we hope it will help to bring in a little more money for the poor children. We should be glad if the *Sun* would assist us to beg for the homeless children who are half perishing from cold and hunger in our streets. As for "abuse and injustice," we really thought we had fallen in for our full share of those commodities; and if there is any unpleasant name which we have not been called during the last two or three years, or any crime which has not been imputed to us, we should like to hear it now, just from curiosity. But let us say no more about it—the *Sun's* good wishes, and its good word for the children, are alike welcome. Let us now live happily together, for the end of the world must be at hand.

Rev. GEO. H. HEPWORTH writes us a letter to state that he believes the church now building for him is fire-proof, and he incloses another letter from his architect to the same effect. We certainly wish that this opinion could not be controverted, but from the facts of the case which we present this morning, the public can arrive at a just conclusion much more easily than by accepting the assumptions of the architect. We certainly do not suppose that Mr. HEPWORTH or his architect deliberately wish to erect a building which may prove a trap for some unfortunate congregation, but they would be wise to yield their prejudices in favor of their singular structure to the sad experience of the last few days. By the by, is the church in question eventually designed to serve as a Buddhist temple?

With every sharp and sudden frost we have a railway tragedy, due to a broken rail; and the disaster at Prospect Station, by which twenty-five persons lost their lives, only repeats incidents with which the public have become too familiar. It would seem possible that extra vigilance during cold weather might detect flaws in the rails, or that, at least, greater caution in running trains during such weather might lessen the chances of these calamities. In all such cases, the loss of life is chiefly due to the burning of the imprisoned passengers in the wrecked cars. It cannot be expected that the public will much longer patiently submit to the perils incident to railway travel, and unless the companies speedily institute reforms which will render them less terrible, they must expect that an appeal will be made for legislation on the subject.

Everywhere yesterday the weather was bitterly cold. To persons who could stay at home at ease, it may have made no difference—to newspaper editors, who have to trudge through the streets in the small hours of the morning, it was not at all amusing. We are new to expect snow, so says the "Probabilities," and it would be rash to contradict them. At Rutland, Vt., the thermometer fell to 29° below zero yesterday. What is the use of having a thermometer at all under such circumstances? The best way is to go to bed and wait till the weather changes.

In Visalia, Cal., a murderer has been hanged by the citizens. Somebody had better take care.

Tammany and the Democratic Party.

On Tuesday we made a casual reference or two, occupying about a line of print, to Mr. ABRAM S. HEWITT. Today that gentleman replies to us in a letter of nearly a column in length. We are very glad that every line of criticism we publish does not entail upon us the necessity of reading a column of explanation or defense, for life is short, and what is of even greater consequence in a newspaper office, "space," is circumscribed. However, we willingly give Mr. HEWITT the room he asks for, and will now dispose of the controversy, so far as he is concerned, with a brevity which we commend to his attention.

We said of Mr. HEWITT that he never uttered a word in public against the Tammany thieves. In reply he states (1) that we do him an injustice; (2) that he never had an opportunity of condemning the Tammany thieves in public. It seems to us that Mr. HEWITT confirms our original statement. We never undertook to explain why it was that Mr. HEWITT had not denounced the Tweed gang. We only said he never had done so, and he admits it, but gives us the reason for his silence. Very good—it leaves the case where it was before.

The Tweed Charter, (under which we are at present living,) Mr. HEWITT says, he opposed. We have seen that under an honest Controller, the Tweed Charter may be made a tolerable instrument. It needs many revisions and corrections—but the great source of our troubles was not the Tweed Charter, but the fact that we had thieves to administer it. Frame any charter you please, and give highwaymen the exclusive power under it, and where will you be? Against TWEED, SWEENY, CONNOLLY, and HALL the Democratic Party (including Mr. HEWITT) never protested, until it found that the gang could no longer be of any use to it.

Mr. HEWITT claims some credit for the work of "reforming Tammany," and says the work has been done well. We say that it is nonsense to set up any such claim while men like "MATT" BRENNAN, "GUS" SCHELL, "CHARLEY" LOEW, and others of the same stamp, are leaders of Tammany, or have power to influence it largely. As for looking for the aid of Tammany in securing real reforms from the next Legislature, we beg to assure Mr. HEWITT that our expectations are so slight in that direction that it will be difficult to disappoint us. And here we may take leave of our correspondent, without wishing to say a word that may be disagreeable to him.

But there are one or two points connected with the general subject which ought not to be passed over, because they seriously concern the public. Ever since the downfall of Tammany, the Democratic party in this City has made an effort, at fitful intervals, to claim all the credit of its overthrow. Now the fact is—let any one turn back to our files and see whether we are not correct—that our daily, incessant attacks upon Tammany began in the Summer of 1870. It was not until *a year later* that Mr. TILDEN, or any leading Democrat, could be induced to lift a finger or utter a word against TWEED and his confederates. The supposed organ of the Democratic Party in this City, now apparently *in articulo mortis*—the *World*—persistently defended the Tammany Ring and all its members. It denounced us for attacking them in all the polysyllables which it could rake together; and this, perhaps, was the best return that its conductor could make for a "brown-stone house" in Fifth-avenue. The *World*, though by no means acting from disinterested motives, undoubtedly represented the general feeling of the Democratic Party. Tammany had given it this State—seemed likely to help it to win the Presidential election in 1872. If Tammany had not been overthrown in 1871, we should have had a Democratic President in 1873, without a doubt. While Tammany could be thus useful, the Democrats never quarreled with it. They may have suspected its dishonesty—but they gladly winked at it.

Mr. TILDEN was, throughout this period, as quiet as a mouse. Or, if he did appear anywhere in public, it was generally in a position which led people to suppose that he was on the side of the Tweed gang. He presided over their Convention at Rochester, in September, 1870, and we took the liberty then of remonstrating with him upon the folly of his course. As Chairman of the State Committee, he must have known that TWEED was carrying elections solely by fraud and robbery. In September, 1870, we were denouncing TWEED & Co., with what some people called "brutal violence," and Mr. TILDEN went to Rochester to preside over TWEED'S Convention—for such it was—and made a long speech. Did he say a word about the misdeeds of Tammany? No—he merely delivered a long address on the evils of centralization, and warned us that the Federal Government would soon make another France of the United States.

We never questioned the fact that Mr. TILDEN all this time in his heart detested the Tammany gang—but he took good care never to say so. We kept on our fight for a year more, with not a single encouraging circumstance to cheer us in it, except the knowledge that we had right on our side, and unlimited faith in the public. We had driven the Tammany leaders to bring or threaten all sorts of suits against us; they had offered to pay us any sum of money that might be acceptable to us if we would be silent. Their threats we laughed at—their money we told them to take to the *World* office, where that article is always welcome. In the meantime, we had succeeded in convincing the public (notwithstanding the celebrated whitewashing report of ACTON, TAYLOR & Co.) that the City was being robbed on an enormous scale, and that the deliberate suppression of the Controller's reports for more than two years—in clear defiance of the law—was one proof of the robbery. We gave other proofs, still more direct; public attention was fully aroused, and at last—nearly a year after we had opened our attack—the figures came into our hands proving our charges. We published those figures within four days from the time we first saw them—keeping them only long enough to reduce them to order, and to enable us to master their full significance. The *World* declared that we had forged the figures, and has never, from that day to this, published a line of them—thus concealing from its readers all knowledge of the great robberies, and pretending that the City was in perfectly honest and capable hands.

But Mr. TILDEN was not so foolish as the *World*, and he summoned up spirit enough to join us soon after this period. Partly through his advice and Mr. HAVEMEYER'S, Mr. GREEN was put into the Controller's office. We were the only paper in the City which heartily supported that appointment. The *World* denounced it in terms of the coarsest abuse. Mr. GREEN was "an accomplice of CONNOLLY." Mr. TILDEN was described as a "skillful politician and railway manager." Mr. HAVEMEYER was "poor old HAVEMEYER." Mr. TILDEN was understood to be on intimate terms with the editor of the *World*, but that did not prevent the *World* from casting out shameful insinuations concerning his honor and integrity. Perhaps Mr. TILDEN had not just then "seen" his friend, and "squared" matters with him.

However that may be, it is a fact which anybody can prove for himself, by mere reference to the newspapers, that the Democrats only came in to kick Tammany when Tammany was virtually dead. Mr. TILDEN was shrewd enough to see that unless a section of the Democratic Party cut loose from Tammany, the whole party must inevitably go under with Tammany. He cut loose in the very nick of time to save his own reputation. While Tammany could win all the elections for the Democracy, Democrats never complained of it. When it was down, a few of them made a great show of jumping upon it. But they left us to do the fighting, and we have received nothing from them but calumny, misrepresentation, and abuse ever since. Mr. HEWITT'S civil word today is the first which has been addressed to us publicly by a Democrat on this subject.

Our Danger from Fire.

Six young women and a boy, who were employed in the Centre-street building, destroyed by fire on Tuesday evening, are reported missing, and it is believed they perished in the flames. In addition to the circumstance that these unfortunates cannot be found, we have the fact that the building in which they worked seemed in some respects to have been constructed with a view to just such a tragedy. It was very lofty, provided with only a narrow stairway and a rickety fire-escape, as a means of descending from its upper floors, which were used as a bindery, and, of course, filled with the most inflammable materials. Conspicuous as was this structure as a trap for the poor people toiling in it, there are many others in this City which are quite as bad. It is a duty the authorities owe to the thousands of artisans who are every day working at perilous heights in flimsy buildings, to see that they are provided with such means of escape, in case of fire, as to render a repetition of this Centre-street disaster impossible.

But the time is rapidly approaching when public sentiment will demand that all buildings used for public purposes—such as theatres, hotels, and factories—shall be really fire-proof, rather than provided with such make-shifts as fire-escapes and numerous stairways, which often serve no better purpose than to bewilder and unnerve timid persons placed in sudden peril. The article which we print this morning presents the dangers which beset us from the inflammable character of our buildings, and shows the possibility of structures which shall be absolutely impervious to fire. The events of the past few days in this City render it certain that the obvious means of safety which we thus recommend cannot be much longer neglected without grave risk to the safety of the City. We have, indeed, an admirable Fire Department, which is often called upon to show that it is equal to any ordinary emergency; but until it is largely increased, and our supply of water becomes inexhaustible, it is certain to be inadequate to that great calamity which we are constantly inviting by permitting the erection of combustible structures, and allowing the City to be made a magazine for petroleum and other equally inflammable substances.

The great obstacles in the way of obtaining fire-proof buildings is the cheapness and rapidity with which our structures are erected. We must learn wisdom from the disasters which are now coming upon us, and reform this matter altogether. We have had enough of warning. There has been enough of sacrifice of life, and more than enough destruction of property, to tell us that we are imperiling the safety of the entire City by our supineness upon the subject of our fire dangers. When we began to call attention to this subject, no serious disaster from fire had occurred in this City for a long time; in the comparatively few days which have since elapsed, nearly a score of lives have been lost, and almost two millions of dollars' worth of property destroyed. Surely, we do not intend to wait until the City is being swept away before we begin to realize the peril we are in.

As to what should be done in the matter, there should be no division of opinion. The exigency is sufficiently grave to call for concerted action upon the part of our citizens, and an appeal should be made to the Legislature in such way that it cannot be disregarded. Our building law should be so altered as to prevent the erection of any edifice which is not strictly incombustible. The storage of oils and like articles in large quantities within the City should not be allowed. This last reform can be accomplished at once; the other must necessarily be a work of time, and, until it is consummated, all buildings used for public purposes should be provided with ample means of exit, and our Fire Department, especially in the up-town districts, should be increased. These, in outline, are the means of safety which are presented to us, and we feel assured that public sentiment will soon require that, when danger can be so easily averted, it shall not be longer invited.

The Tenth National Bank Again.

It appears that the real purport of the decision of the Banking and Currency Committee in regard to the Tenth National Bank, is to the effect that Manager PALMER'S share in the conspiracy to lock up three millions of legal tenders, in April last, violated both the spirit and intention of the National Bank act, while avoiding a technical violation of the letter of the law. In other words, the offense of the Tenth National Bank cannot be punished under existing statutes; and the Committee accordingly recommend that legislation should be immediately passed to provide a remedy against such disreputable transactions in future. Though the Tenth National Bank has thus escaped, by mere technical subtlety, the deprivation of charter which ought to have followed its offense against financial propriety and public safety, it has still a reckoning to settle with the taxpayers of New-York. Its share in the lock-up of legal tenders is only one of the many proofs it has given that the security of the public money in its possession is daily imperiled by the character of its management, and the nature of the transactions with which it is constantly identified. A bank which has been recently controlled by the worst members of the Tammany and Erie Rings, and which is still run in the interest of as many of them as are not fugitives from justice, can hardly be a fitting place of deposit for the money of the public. Its unfitness is still more apparent when it is remembered that almost the only deposits which are intrusted to it are those of New-York City, and that in the absence of these, it would be hard, indeed, to find any reason for its continued existence.

If such reasons are not sufficient to furnish good grounds for the transfer of City moneys to some place of greater safety, the connection of the bank with the overdraft furnished to the Court-house Commissioners ought to place the matter beyond any doubt. The names of these Commissioners are INGERSOLL, NORTON, COMAN, and WALSH—names of sufficiently evil odor then as now, and persons whom in their private capacity the Tenth National, or any other bank, would probably have hesitated to trust to any considerable extent. How these men spent the money which the law allowed them, the public partially know. One of them, at least, rests under several criminal indictments for his peculiar ideas in regard to Municipal funds. Whatever success may attend the legal representatives of the tax-payers in their efforts to regain possession of money stolen under cover of Court-house bills, the people have some right to expect that they should not be asked to make good any funds which did not come in a legal manner into the possession of public officials. Were the record of the Court-house Commissioners as unimpeachable as it is dubious, they had no right to spend a single dollar in excess of the money which was, by law, appropriated for their use. Whoever made additions to their truly-prodigal legal allowance, did so at his own risk, and ought to be left to make what he can out of the personal security of the Commissioners. The Tenth National Bank advanced to INGERSOLL, COMAN & Co. a quarter of a million of dollars, without the slightest warrant of law, and is now trying in the Courts to compel the tax-payers to pay the money back. After being swindled pretty freely with the consent of their elected representatives, it is rather too much to expect the people of New-York to make good advances in regard to which these representatives were never consulted. There is a limit to public responsibility for official expenditure, and in putting money into the hands of INGERSOLL and his colleagues, the Tenth National Bank clearly passed beyond that line.

The fact that the Ring bank is a suitor against the City to recover this illegal and uncalled for overdraft, ought of itself to be sufficient to show its unfitness to be a custodian of public money. Nevertheless, it will probably remain so as long as FRANCIS A. PALMER is City Chamberlain of New-York. That gentleman has already disregarded the provisions of law in placing his nephew, W. B. PALMER, who manages the Tenth National Bank, in the position of Deputy Chamberlain. Under the charter the Chamberlain's office is simply a bureau in the Finance Department, and though the appointment of its head is expressly vested in the Mayor, the appointment of his subordinates belongs to the Controller. If W. B. PALMER, therefore, has received any part of the salary of ten thousand dollars a year attached to the office of Deputy Chamberlain, his superior ought to be compelled to refund it. For, in the first place, the Chamberlain had no right to appoint his deputy, and in the next place, he has no right to draw money out of the public treasury unless on a warrant signed in the usual way. We assume that Controller GREEN has not assented to Chamberlain PALMER'S usurpation of a power vested in the head of the Finance Department, and hence it follows that the connection of W. B. PALMER with City business is an illegal as it is scandalous. In an act of half a dozen lines, the Legislature can entirely terminate this Palmer interest in the City treasury; and the rights of the tax-payers and the defense of financial morality alike demand that it should be one of their first duties to do so.

Will a Postal Telegraph Pay?

Of course, the principal argument in favor of a postal telegraph is, that it will do the same work for less money. A recent writer in one of our weeklies has brought together some facts to show that this argument is fallacious, to which we shall presently allude. Meantime, we would call attention to an element in the question which has been industriously avoided by the advocates of the scheme, and that is the part the tax-payers are to play in it. We will grant, for the sake of argument, that the Government will be able to send messages for somewhat lower rates than the present telegraph companies charge. Supposing that the Post-office Department shall immediately invent some at present unimaginable method of selecting employes on strictly business principles; supposing that it shall then be vouchsafed a special revelation as to how to get full work out of these employes, to keep them free from interference by politicians, and to make them reasonably honest—and even then, the full scope of the undertaking has by no means been conceived. The companies which now control the business are made up of shareholders who have subscribed their own means to carry it on, and who, from their earnings, put aside an amount necessary to meet all probable contingencies. If losses come, they sustain them. If new lines are required, they know when and where to build them, and how far the general condition of the business and its reserved capital will justify extension. If the agents are negligent, or unskillful, or dishonest, they are responsible, and in all cases of emergency the companies are free, within certain broad limits, to act at their own discretion. They are, in a word, the guarantors of the service, and of its proper conduct, and can afford to be.

Now, it is precisely this position that the tax-payers of the United States are required by the new scheme to assume, and they cannot afford it. It is they who stand behind the employes, and declare to those who use the telegraph that the work shall be done and done well, and that all losses, all consequences of mistake or malfeasance, shall be met. And this the tax-payers must do under enormous disadvantages, for they cannot have any direct or practical voice in selecting their agents; they do not know anything about the business; they could not spare the time or labor to attend to it if they would, and they will have promised, in advance, to do the work so cheaply that no appreciable margin of profit can be reserved to protect themselves.

The figures of the writer we have referred to are conclusive that in such a position the tax-payers must lose heavily. He shows, by the statements of official reports, that the theory that with wide extension of business, there is great relative reduction of cost in telegraphing, is a delusion. In the cases alike of the Western Union Company, and of Belgium and England, an extension of nearly one hundred per cent. has made possible a reduced cost of only sixteen to nineteen per cent. The capacity of the lines increases up to a certain point, but the main expense in telegraphing is for labor, and the labor of sending ten million messages is nearly twice as much as the labor of sending five millions. The only possible economy in this principal item results from improved organization. So conclusive are these facts that Sir JAMES ANDERSON, the highest authority on the subject, announces it as his belief that "a reduction of tariff leads to a diminution of the net profit even under the most favorable conditions known." This belief, founded on the most careful and disinterested study of the operations of private companies, is fully concurred in by M. A. JAMAR, the Minister of Public Works of Belgium, after a similar study of the Government telegraphs of that country. He declares that, in Belgium all reduction of tariff has resulted in a diminution of net product."

It is plain, then, that if the Government undertook to do telegraphing cheaper than the private companies, it could not rely on a greater business making up the difference. If lower rates did not meet all exigencies, the tax-payers would have to stand in the breach. Lower rates would be the more certain not to meet expenses, because of the lack of interested intelligence in the management, the necessary restrictions on the discretion of the managers, the impossibility of procuring efficient employes, and the enormous pressure for unprofitable extensions and reduced rates. Those of us who use the telegraph might possibly get more lines and lower rates, but those who do not use the telegraph would unquestionably have to pay for our advantages.

A Musical Mayor.

Mayor HALL, as is well known, desires to be regarded as an improved "Admirable Crichton." He has practiced law, in connection with the renowned case of Mrs. CUNNINGHAM-BURDELL and her hypothetical infant. He has dabbled in profitable politics under the immediate training of WILLIAM M. TWEED. If report speaks truly, he has contributed to that wonderful museum of Celtic rhetoric which constitutes the "intellectual department" of a contemporary, and he has likewise achieved success as the "end man" of the Lotos Club. Not content with having identified his name with these brilliant triumphs in various fields, he now appears before the public in the character of a musical critic, and undertakes the work of improving the musical taste, and enlarging the musical knowledge, of those enthusiastic amateurs of the art divine, the members of the Common Council.

The latter body recently passed a resolution requiring the Park Commissioners to furnish sacred music in the Central Park on Sunday afternoons. This resolution the Mayor signed for the assistative reason that, as the source, "it possesses no legal effect." If "it did possess legal effect," the Mayor assures the Common Council that he "would return it," because it specifies that "sacred music alone shall be discussed by the Central Park Band on Sundays. As Mayor HALL eloquently remarks, "In his opinion, it is abominable Pharisaism to speak of performing by instruments all 'sacred' music, as any more tending to convey religious impulses than music of the music ordinarily called profane." Why it should be Pharisaism to "speak of performing by instruments," rather than by the voice, may not be as clear to the Common Councilman's mind as it doubtless is to the mind of Mr. HALL. Neither is it evident to any one why the author of a sentence so eminently adapted to reduce the mind of the reader to a condition of hopeless chaos, should characterize his peculiar thesis as "abominable Pharisaism." Abominable rubbish it unquestionably is, and it is probable that when the Mayor used the word Pharisaism, he fancied that he was making a neat allusion to Greek mythology, and thus overwhelming the Common Council with a sense of his unequaled classical learning.

The objection to sacred music made by Mr. HALL is two fold. In the first place, sacred music would cause the usual frequenters of the Park to break into profane "ejaculations"—(which is an imposing five-syllable word)—and in the second place, there is no such thing as sacred music. These reasons are certainly extremely comprehensive. "If the Common Council," pursues the Mayor, "would read Dr. HAWEIS' recent charming book upon *Music and Morals* they would see that the time has long vanished which in popular estimation used to separate so-called profane from sacred music." Dr. HAWEIS is not, perhaps, the best of all authorities upon musical questions, but we venture to say that he never was guilty of asserting that the difference between sacred and secular music is only a difference of "time," and that all music, whether professedly sacred or secular, is now written in precisely the same time. While the old-fashioned sacred music stimulates persons of Mr. HALL'S acquaintance to profane "ejaculations," he assures the Common Council that "these same persons, should they hear performed the dirge in 'L'Africaine,' or the sweet strains from the last act of 'Traviata,' would be almost bowed to the green award in momentary reverence, under impulses of religious emotion." Surely this statement is worth testing. The next time Mayor HALL, Mr. TWEED, and Mr. THOMAS C. FIELDS visit the Central Park, let the band be instructed to play "Parigi, O cara." The spectacle of these three great men bowing almost to the green award under the excess of religious emotion would be one of unusual interest.

It is a pity that the Mayor descended from the lofty position of an inspired musical critic to touch upon more prosaic and commonplace matters. He ends his lecture to the Common Council with a sarcastic allusion to the reprehensible habit of passing notes from hand to hand, which, as he alleges, prevails among members of church-choirs, and to a less extent among theatrical audiences. "Note movements," says Mr. HALL, "well approved in church choirs, are often heard in theatres, where they provoke merriment." Admitting that this assertion is painfully true, what has the rustling of these notes to do with music in the Central Park? It is, of course, eminently fitting that Mayor HALL should be a censor of public morals and manners, but he ought not to discuss questions of courtesy in the same breath with musical matters. As a musical writer, he is something so original and unique that no one will consent that he should mar his splendid critiques by the introduction of extraneous topics. Let him instill into the Common Councilmen the vast wealth of his musical knowledge. After that it will be time enough to instruct them as to how they should conduct themselves in church choirs and theatres.

The "Tombs" as a City Prison.

The Tombs was evidently erected under the direction of men who had a greater desire to attain a limited degree of success in imitation of Egyptian antiquities than in furnishing the City with a tolerably decent prison. It was built on the site of the old Collect Pond, the foundation having been laid upon a series of piles, which, it is not at all improbable, may some day give way, and sink the massive structure several feet. It took about six years to complete it and to prepare the interior for the formal entry of the Sheriff and his charge. This interesting event occurred in 1838. At first it was intended that the debtors should also be accommodated with quarters, but, after making the experiment of two separate systems in one institution, the whole was found to work so badly that the Ludlow-street Jail had to be built. The female prisoners were then placed on the top floor of the Tombs, and kept without the assistance of a matron—an oversight which was finally rectified in consequence of an attempted outrage by one of the male prisoners. Subsequently another division was made, and, this time, the sexes were completely isolated from one another. The name of "Tombs" originated in a way to clearly establish the fact that the building had not been erected in accordance with the very commonest laws for the preservation of health. In 1854, twelve of the inmates died from suffocation. So startling an event naturally caused a considerable stir and much indignation. Improvements were commenced immediately afterward, and continued from time to time, by the different administrations down to the present day. That is to say, improvements were made so far as the original plan of the prison would permit of them. The ground is of that kind which will exhale deadly vapors in spite of every effort of sanitary science. In Winter and Summer, the walls of the cells remain damp, and the whitewash and plaster are continually chipping off. Literally, cancers in the walls. In the boys' prison, a modicum of success has been attained in keeping them out by means of a thick layer of cement over the flooring, but so far it has been found impossible to prevent them from squeezing, some way or other, into the beds of prisoners at night.

Now, taking into consideration every circumstance, there can be no doubt whatever of the desirability of giving up the use of the Tombs for a City prison. The utter absurdity of turning it into a hospital—a recommendation of the Aldermen—will be evident to the mind of the reader after what we have said of its unhealthy situation; and to make it available for an armory—another Aldermanic suggestion—the cost would be almost as great as for a new building. To sell it to the highest bidder will be found a much better plan. The property, covering as it does an entire block, is exceedingly valuable for commercial purposes, and can be disposed of without entailing a very great loss upon the City.

AMUSEMENTS.

Dramatic.

COMEDY AT THE UNION-SQUARE.

Sheridan's comedy of "The School for Scandal" was represented at the Union-square Theatre last evening. The company of this house is as efficient, so far as meeting the requirements of most modern dramas is concerned, as it is numerous, but for the adequate interpretation of pieces of a higher order, something more than the experience of a good stock troupe is needed. It is scarcely incumbent upon us to say that "The School for Scandal" is possibly the most exacting of the works last referred to. To mention, then, that the performance was entertaining and respectable, is to imply that it was exceedingly creditable to the actors, though the clearness of some of the personages, and the well-defined traits of others were not as clear as we could have wished. The distribution of parts included Mr. Mark Smith, Mr. F. F. Mackay, Mr. W. R. Laurens, Mr. D. H. Harkins, Mr. H. Lamb, Mr. George Parkes, and Mrs. Clara Jennings, Miss Fleesy Mordaunt, and Miss Josephine Laurens. Mr. Smith personated *Sir Peter Teazle*, Mr. Jennings *Lady Teazle*, and Mr. Harkins *Charles Surface*. The recital was followed with much interest, and excited great merriment. "The School for Scandal" will be repeated to-night.

Musical.

THOMAS SYMPHONY CONCERTS.

We once more remind the musical reader of the admirable entertainment in reserve for Saturday evening next, when the second of Mr. Thomas' symphony concerts will occur at Steinway Hall. The programme of the affair has already appeared in this place. The sale of seats was commenced, let us note, with many omens of good, yesterday morning, and it is to continue until further notice.

THE OPERA IN PHILADELPHIA.

The season of opera in Philadelphia has terminated abruptly. Mme. Lucca's continued illness and the sudden hoarseness of Miss Kellogg caused the publication, yesterday, of an announcement to the effect that the series of performances would not include the intended recitals of Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. A physician's certificate as to Mme. Lucca's inability to appear accompanied the announcement—the necessity for which we sincerely regret.

Specie Payment.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I have read with much interest the communications of your Cleveland correspondent, "A. B.," and your Wall-street correspondent, "W.," and your very able editorial in the issue of the 24th, and while the communications referred to contain eminently practical financial suggestions they do not, in my opinion, trace the evil to its source, nor suggest the full measure of the remedy required to remove beyond the reach of "reckless and greedy speculators" the control of our finances or the stability of our commercial interests.

Your editorial, however, touches upon the true pivot, and, by your permission, I will elucidate the premises and speak of that of which I do know. First, then—It is not within the province of the General Government to make penal or criminal laws for the regulation of the domestic affairs of a State, but all such laws are by the Constitution left to the Governments of the several States, and therefore any change in the Banking or Financial laws of the Government could not remedy the evil of which you speak in your editorial, to wit, the manipulating of the currency of the country by reckless and greedy speculators.

Now, as New-York City is the acknowledged centre of commerce, and Wall-street the acknowledged financial centre of this continent, it naturally follows that whatever affects the commercial interests of this City vibrates through the length and breadth of the land, and a lock-up of currency in Wall-street is felt in the remotest corner of our country. It therefore follows that New-York State, above all other States in the Union, should have a sound code of criminal laws giving a remedy for every wrong that can be committed against the finances or commercial interests of the State. Here will be found the lamentable defect. And I may be permitted to say that to the absence of a law defining and punishing conspiracies, according to their grade and pernicious effect, may be traced not only our present financial difficulties, but the countless miseries that have been entailed by unscrupulous Wall-street operators upon the entire country.

We have, for the want of such a law, drifted into absolute financial anarchy; and unless the Legislature of New-York State will restore the common law offense and punishment of conspiracies, all the efforts of the General Government, the banks, and financiers, to resume specie payments, or restore the financial interests of the country to a healthy condition, will be in vain; for a Hank Smith, an Erie Gould, or a Horace Clark, can, in the language of Wall-street, "corner them all and bar the lot." They can at pleasure throttle the finances of the country, and defy the Government.

This, then, is the proper and only remedy for the financial ulcer, and let me ask, what good citizen is not interested in the passage of such a law? Had it been in force within the past decade, rings would be unknown, and our Municipal Ring thieves would long since have worn the uniform of our State prisons, and the Treasury been reimbursed from their stolen plunder. Such a law was in force in this State until swept away for the benefit of a certain class of financiers who have since grown immensely rich at the cost of the millions. Why should our laws punish the poor miscreant who steals a loaf of bread, when it does not provide for the punishment of the princely scoundrels who combine to rob the millions, who beggar the widow and orphan, and prostrate our commercial interest by their manipulation of values. That old proverb that "self-preservation is the first law of nature," and that other legal maxim, "that a man in defense of his property may slay the robber," may yet assert themselves in our midst and sweetly rule supreme. The remedy is unquestionably in the hands of the Legislature of this State, and if it can be prevailed upon to give to this State this one only fortress wherein justice may entrench herself against combined villainy, the finances of the country will be regulated by normal and legitimate values, and commercial integrity be restored to our marts of trade, the community protected against high-handed robbery, and the cant phrase of "what are you going to do about it," trampled under foot.

THADDEUS THINKER.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25, 1872.

NOTES FROM WASHINGTON.

BY GRACE GREENWOOD.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Dec. 23, 1872.

Congress has been and gone. Our late reassembled wisdom is again scattered abroad dispersing and delentating itself at happy fire-sides—throwing off the state and dignity which so mark and burden it here, and making itself delightfully at home in the common walks of life.

I have been to the Capitol but seldom since my return from the West, and in my few visits have heard little of interest. After the great Autumnal tempest there is a lazy lull of political passions, which, as a Christian, I rejoice in, but, as a chronicler, I deprecate. The "era of good feeling" is likely to prove a dull enough season for us letter-writers and reporters. During two of my late visits to the Senate I found them discussing the old French spoliation claim. Such veterans as Mr. Sumner and I can remember twenty years of that bore. If everything else fails, there is that always to fall back upon. I heard again on this theme, Conkling, Morton, Thurman, and others, who were the strong and fiery debaters on San Domingo matters two years ago, but they seemed to lack the old force and fire. I think, on the whole, I prefer a meeting of that live body of Colorado colonists, the Lyceum, at Greeley, to a session of the Senate in these piping times of peace.

The eulogies of Senators on the late Garrett Davis were eloquent and feeling tributes. Mr. Davis had many excellent attributes, not the least of which was what the old Methodists used to call the "gift of continuance" in speaking. Senators used to seize on the time he occupied in his memorable speeches, or speech, for outside business, or recreation—some took it for holidays, and went home. No wonder they miss and deplore him.

After my long absence, after changes so momentous and struggles so stupendous, I looked for greater apparent changes in the personnel of the honorable Senators and Representatives. Mr. Cameron, the indomitable, the unconquerable, wears the same look he has worn for the last ten years, and glides about in the same soft-footed, Aboriginal way. Mr. Sumner looks somewhat worn, but has lated not one jot or tittle of his old lofty, imperious bearing. He smiles less frequently than formerly, but with the old pleasant, propitiating effect. He always had a smile of startling brightness, with something peculiarly unexpected and irresistible about it. Mr. Wilson bears on his hearty, genial countenance a chastened look of triumph, and seems none the worse for his mighty campaign labors. "Our cousin of Buckingham" wears the same benignant expression we have all known and loved him by so long. Mr. Morrill, of Maine, reminds one more than ever of a fine old head on a Roman coin. Pleasant Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, is happily unchanged, and one is equally glad to see that his learned colleague wears still his look of chronic opposition and captiousness, distrust, and general dissatisfaction. Were he to look happy and confiding, and "smile around right childly," like, for instance, Senator Nye, we should think he was not long to be spared to us.

Mr. Schurz, Mr. Fenton, and Mr. Trumbull look a little the worse for the wear and tear of a disastrous, rough and tumble campaign, and the pitiless petting of these Nast-ry caricatures. I looked for Tipton, with his bristling hair and orbic mouth, but saw him not. Mr. Butler came into the Senate Chamber one day, and posed himself near where I once saw him stand on a memorable occasion, when his inopportune presence was taken as a grievous insult by Mr. Garrett Davis, and there ensued a singular, silent duel of eye between the two politicians, Mr. Butler having the advantage. Now, I almost looked to see a venerable ghost enter on the scene, glide like a bloodless Banquo into the vacant chair of the dead Senator, and at last look the rash intruder down with eyes of immortal fire.

It gratifies me, I will say *en passant*, that Mr. Conkling has parted with none of his dainty jauntiness, or jaunty daintiness, and that Mr. Pomeroy has lost none of his *embonpoint*. The Senate Chamber itself has undergone some changes. They have a new gallery, adjoining the diplomatic, elegantly upholstered in dark green, set apart sacredly to the wives and daughters of Senators. They have new screens before the doors, and new brass registers under the desks, and the little pages have skirts to their roundabouts. So we advance and improve in the Great Republic. The new gallery is an aristocratic institution and distinction which, twenty years ago, Southern Senators labored in vain to establish. The arrogant proposition was always voted down, as incompatible with republicanism, as then understood. But, as I said, we advance, and pages take on tails, and Senators' wives their proper dignity, quite in the natural course of things.

That splendid new gallery has been of late drearily empty. On the day of adjournment, not a Senator's wife, or daughter, or sister, or even mother-in-law put in an appearance there. The place of the door-keeper—an old friend of mine—is an absolute sinecure. Heaven pity him! I know he is tired of both the *otium* and the *dignitate*—is weary of guarding tabooed emptiness. He once begged me to give him a job in the seating line, shouldering the responsibility of the unlawful admission; but being a social animal by nature, and not being in full dress, I declined the lonely grandeur of the green cushions, and went and sat among the commons with my cronies.

The House seems unchanged for the better. They say its ventilation is improved, but my lungs, rendered morbidly sensitive, perhaps, by long, rich draughts of Rocky Mountain air, such as the gods never drank on Olympus, refused to recognize the fact. Certainly the great pit of legislation seemed to me darker and more confused than ever before. At my first visit, on a dull day, it was with difficulty I made out the old familiar figures on the floor. I recognized first the mild face of Mr. Hoar, which somehow reminded me of Mr. Greeley's; next, Gen. Garfield's genial countenance, then Bingham's aquiline profile, aquilinor than ever, and Fernando Wood's snowy mustache, borne high in air, and Farnsworth's beard, shorn of half its wealth and waggishness. There was immediately below us one peculiar, two-story head, that for some moments I failed to recognize. It was that of Gen. Banks, strangely silvered over with the frosts of a single year, perhaps of a single night. Had the defeat of Liberalism anything to do with the startling change? Is it because the die is cast (away) that this entirely whiteness crowns the head of the warrior statesman of Massachusetts? It is not unbecoming, on the whole. Indeed, it is the change in our pleasant friend which we least regret. One must get used to these transformations here in Washington. A few days ago we dropped into the Supreme Court-room, that solemn sanctuary of dullness and decorum, and there we saw the Chief Justice in a new metamorphose, wearing a beard and mustache, grizzly and of considerable length. It, strangely alters him. The Senator Chase of the old time has quite passed out of sight behind it. It is a new departure that I cannot like. It is not beautifying. Perhaps 'tis the result of a campaign vow, or wager—"Anything to beat Grant."

I am relieved to find that my friends who are going out, both Liberals and Democrats, (a distinction without a difference,) are cheerful, and even in some instances hilarious, at the near prospect of returning to private life. Such spirit as they display! Boston and Chicago sufferers are not comparable to them. I had expected to do a good deal of condoling on meeting them. Indeed, I had got ready several sympathetic and magnanimous little speeches, pretty things in their way, which I find, "Love's labor lost." By the joy of these released patriots, in going out of office, we can measure their sacrifice in so long remaining in.

Passing through the old hall of Representatives, I noticed a new work of art, "Il Penseroso," by Mosler—a graceful, maidenly figure, which reminds one of the antique, in the management of the drapery, a direction in which this artist excelled, I think. There are also two new statues, Connecticut's contribution to the National Valhalla, "Roger Sherman," and "Jonathan Trumbull." My heart warmed toward these old worthies, fellow-townsmen and familiar friends of my sires, but they looked like pilgrims and strangers here, in this cold, dim, noisy thoroughfare of sight-seers and politicians. It is a dreary place, and can never seem like anything but a lumber-room and limbo of art. There was always something melancholy and mortuary about this deserted chamber, even before the advent of Miss Vinnie Ream's "Lincoln." It is to me haunted by the ghosts of dead issues, and of a dead party, once as strong, and proud, and secure, and arrogant as the Republican Party of today.

I found Mr. Spofford, the admirable Librarian of Congress, suffering from a book-blockade, utterly walled in and overwhelmed by pamphlets and tomes. The demand for a new National Library building is most imperative. We must have accommodations for what Major Jack Downing would call the "everlasting sight of books" that is pouring in upon us. Then, ho! for an art-gallery, and something to put in it! Something new, as well as rich and rare, for we would not rob the Capitol building of its present art treasures, from Trumbull to Powell, and from Persico to Ream—not by no manner of means.

I was rejoiced to hear shortly after my return to the City that the Committee on Territories had, after listening to the powerful argument of Mr. Chaffee, decided to report favorably on the admission of my beloved Colorado as a State. I know that "large bodies move slowly," and that Congress is the slowest and most unwieldy of bodies, yet I can but hope it will, for once, make short work of a good work, and that President Grant may grandly finish up his first term by signing the bill which will bring into the great galaxy of States this splendid young star of silver sheen.

OBITUARY.

Kamehameha V., King of the Sandwich Islands.

A dispatch from Honolulu, by way of San Francisco, brings the intelligence that the King, Kamehameha V., died on the 11th inst. in that city. This sovereign was the brother of Kamehameha IV., (Alexander Liho-Liho,) and was born in 1830, and succeeded his brother Nov. 30, 1863. He gave evidence in his acts of a desire to reform the Constitution of the country, and to introduce such improvements as his kingdom was susceptible of. In order to encourage commerce and industry, he granted every possible privilege to foreigners, and even went to the extent of forming a Cabinet composed of men of various other nationalities, but who had resided in the country a number of years. As the head of this Cabinet, as Minister of Finances, he placed a Frenchman, M. Cromier de Varigny, who had been authorized by Napoleon III. to accept the position; the Minister of Foreign Affairs was a Scotchman, Mr. R. C. Wyllie; the Minister of the Interior, an Englishman, Mr. Hopkins; and the Minister of Justice and the Chancellor were both Americans, Mr. Harris, of Philadelphia, and Mr. E. Allen, formerly a member of the United States Congress. The Cabinet proved entirely harmonious in its operations, and was received very favorably by the Parliament. The death of Kamehameha causes an interregnum which may result in internal changes in the Government of the Sandwich Islands.

Skating on the Park Yesterday.

Though the signal officer promised us high temperatures yesterday, the weather was scarcely warmer, to any perceptible degree, than it had been the day preceding, when clear and cold was predicted. The lakes in the Park, however, were crowded with skaters, who swarmed over the ice in such crowds as to cut it till scarcely any level or smooth surface remained. The people began to arrive at an early hour, but it was during the afternoon that the numbers were greatest. At that time all the ponds were alive with people, among them a large number of ladies. Some of the finest lady skaters who have hitherto appeared on the ice were wheeling their many courses across it yesterday, and about 4 o'clock, the main lake presented a very lively picture, thronged as it was with well-dressed crowds, every one warmly and comfortably clad, and bent on enjoying the amusement of the hour to the utmost. Toward night the air seemed to grow colder, and, yielding to its biting influence, the crowd of visitors thinned out, every one betaking him or herself to the more congenial comforts of the warm fireside, and the merriment which might be expected to reign supreme around it on Christmas night.

A Lively Old Gentleman in Tompkins County.

From the Ithaca Journal, Dec. 24.

In the town of Ulysses, Tompkins County, N. Y., lives Mr. Samuel Van, who was born in New-Brunswick, State of New-Jersey, Dec. 20, 1772. He is of good physical organization, and his mental qualities are good, with exception of a slight defect in hearing and memory. He walks erect, quick, and very active, and would be supposed to be a man sixty-five or seventy years of age. He has always enjoyed good health from childhood, and in the early part of his life he followed the occupation of a mason, and when working on the College buildings, in New-Brunswick, he made a wager he could lay 110 brick in ten minutes, and did lay 111 within the time in a good workmanlike manner. He moved to Ulysses, in the year 1812, and in 1816 purchased the farm on which he now lives. During the past season (1871) he and his twelve children, some of the first born in Tompkins County, He does his own work, and saws his wood which he brings from the forest. He has raised a family of twelve; only one son and three daughters now living. He married his second wife twelve years ago, who has just died at an advanced stage of life.

The Official Legislative Vote of New-Jersey.

The Trenton *Gazette* publishes the full official vote of New-Jersey on members of Legislature by townships and wards, and says:

The following summary exhibits the majorities on the legislative ticket by counties:

County.	Republican majority.	Democratic majority.
Atlantic	158	
Bergen		86
Burlington	1095	
Camden	2441	
Cape May	406	
Cumberland	307	
Essex	4501	
Gloucester	621	
Hudson	44	
Hunterdon		362
Mercer	118	
Middlesex	411	
Monmouth		1172
Morris	1322	
Ocean	80	
Passaic	1406	
Salem	211	
Somerset	337	
Sussex		451
Union	860	
Warren		1510
Total	10721	3579

Aggregate Republican majority 11,442.

The aggregate Republican majority in the State in 1866 seem to be 11,444. It is undoubtedly the largest majority ever received by any party in this State on the legislative ticket.

MR. HEPWORTH'S CHURCH.

What the Architect and Mr. Hepworth Have to Say About It.

To the Building Committee of the Church of the Disciples:

There is so much excitement in the public mind respecting liability to fire, and especially since the burning of Mr. Talmage's church, that I hasten to say to the public, through you, that in my opinion your church is as free from all danger from fire as any dwelling-house.

Mr. Talmage's Tabernacle was a frame building, filled in with brick, and the roof was covered with plastic slate. Your church, on the contrary, is really a brick building, the walls being in the main part sixteen inches thick, and the columns which support the rafters being also of solid brick and stone four feet square. The roof is covered with slate and tin. Though some parts of the building present just now a wooden appearance, it must not be forgotten that it is all to be covered, inside and out, with iron. I can only repeat that I believe your church, when finished, will be as nearly fireproof as any other church in this City.

I am yours very truly,

LAWRENCE B. VALK, Architect.

NEW-YORK, Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1872.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I have read your article of this morning on "The Church of the Disciples," with more than usual interest. While I entirely sympathize with the general object you have in view, that is, to prevent the erection of unsafe buildings, I am sure you will agree with me that it is right and proper for the defendant to have an opportunity to state his case.

The New-York public have been so kind and generous to me of late that I feel myself accountable to them for every step I take in my public life. I should be more than sorry to feel that this church, which has been the free gift of the good men of this City, is not being constructed on a plan which they would entirely approve. Let me then state my case:

First—When the plans were drawn and submitted to Mr. Macgregor, they were a copy of those from which Mr. Talmage's church was built. The structure was to be largely of wood, the frame-work to be filled in with brick. Mr. Macgregor looked them over with great care, and then suggested the necessity of substituting brick for wood. We determined to incur the extra expense, and make four solid brick walls, sixteen inches thick, and to build all the columns of solid mason-work. Mr. Talmage's church was a frame building, while the Church of the Disciples is a brick building. Some two weeks ago Mr. Macgregor sent a board of investigation to visit the structure, and after suggesting a few unimportant improvements, which were gladly accepted, they pronounced themselves perfectly satisfied.

Second—Mr. Talmage's church was covered with a patent plastic slate, while the roof of the Church of the Disciples is covered with tin and regular quarry slate.

Third—Some of the best insurance companies in this City have, within a month, expressed a willingness to take a risk on the building at the regular rates for first-class brick structures, which is fair evidence that they considered it equal in point of safety to houses and stores.

Fourth—I think the public, which is just now very naturally excited on the subject, will find after the church is finished, that it is no more, or less liable to communicate fire to other buildings than houses put up in the ordinary way. Within four feet of Mr. Talmage's church was a frame building, which was not even scorched by the fire. I think the Committee of Investigation will find that the walls of the church resisted fire better than ordinary brick walls.

In the last place, a word as to the substantial character of our church. When I say that the contractor is Mr. John Sellin, I say all that is necessary on that point. I cheerfully invite—and I speak for all those whom I have been able to consult—all our friends to go over the building from cellar to roof, confident that they will find it as thoroughly built as any church in the City. We had on the floor for more than two weeks all the roof trusses, and they did not sink the floor an atom. Some weeks since, when one of these immense trusses, which is 112 feet long, and weighs more than ten tons—was being hoisted, the pole broke and the whole weight came down on the floor from a height of about forty feet. Even then the floor bore the enormous shock without giving a particle. Indeed, the Committee take great pride in the strength of the structure.

I think this is all I need say. Every precaution has been taken against any possible accident, and no money has been spared to insure perfect safety. In times when solid iron buildings melt in the fervent heat of conflagration, and when granite stores crumble to the ground, we feel sure that the Church of the Disciples will be the equal of any structure in the neighborhood.

I am prompted to say this because I feel too grateful to the people of New-York to do anything which shall cause regret.

I am, sincerely yours,

GEO. H. HEPWORTH.

NEW-YORK, Tuesday, Dec. 24, 1872.

Results of a Times Reporter's Investigations Into the Matter.

The architect of the Brooklyn Tabernacle having testified that Dr. Hepworth's church is being constructed on the same general plan as the burned edifice, a reporter of the TIMES yesterday visited that church, now being built, on Madison-avenue, between Forty-fourth and Forty-fifth streets. A careful inspection of the building will convince any one that it may be considered a death trap, in more ways than one. The building covers an extent of ground 132 feet long by 125 feet broad. The outer wall, up to the first story, in front is built of brick, the side walls being similarly constructed as high as the ceiling, which is thirty-four feet from the floor of the church proper. About a dozen brick piers, running from the foundation, support the roof, each pier having a flue which serves for the passage of hot air, the escape of smoke from the furnaces in the basement, and for ordinary ventilation. The piers are being studded with pine scantling, on which the corrugated iron is to be nailed, and at the opening of the flues a complete frame-work of wood has been constructed. As the church is being built after the pattern of an amphitheatre, a semi circle of the front wall is formed by frame connections above the first story, between the brick piers; the wood-work, consisting of narrow pine planks nailed on to pine studs, all of the most inflammable character. To make even this the more dangerous, the planks are in several places pierced for gas-pipes to run, the framework for holding the glass being constructed of carved pine, or some other soft wood. These plank connections extend from the brick-work of the first story to the cornice of the roof, and according to the builders, the vacancies between the studs are to be filled with brick before covering them with corrugated iron. But as a number of workmen were busily engaged yesterday nailing the iron on to the wood itself, there was at that time no apparent guarantee that the brick filling would be carried out in good faith. Even should it be, the frame-work for the windows would prove good conductors of fire to the wood-work beneath the corrugated iron, as nothing is being done to protect these window-frames from fire. The ceiling of the church proper is being constructed of wood, covered with corrugated iron, paneled off with wood, on the under side. An extensive dome, rising fifty-five feet above the ceiling, is being constructed entirely of wood, supported by innumerable pine rafters and studs, running in every direction. Above this dome is the roof of the church, and the wooden ceiling of the church is to be an "ecclesiastical loft," in which, as is usual with all such places, every kind of rubbish will be stowed away. The builders say it is only to be used by those who may require to open the ventilating windows in the dome, and for whose convenience wooden pathways will be constructed above the ceiling beams; but it is well-known that janitors and others generally stow away unsightly articles in just such places. In the centre of the ceiling is a large round ventilator constructed of wood, similar to a well-hole, and extending the whole fifty-five feet from the ceiling to the top of the dome, forming an excellent draft-flue in the event of a fire occurring in the church below, and would certainly convey the flames to the wooden roof. In addition to this wooden roof, there are a large number of wooden cornices, which are to be bedeviled, and on all sides, to hold a fire, if once started, and to form the means of conducting it from one part of the roof to the other. The builders say the roof is to be covered with slate, and the minarets with iron, but should a fire break out in the "cock-loft," the outside iron and slate would form no little protection, and if a large fire should occur in the immediate vicinity, the iron would peel off from the outside with the heat, and lay the wooden sides and other places bare to the action of the flames. To add to the dangers of the roof, the church is to be illuminated from above, and when fully lighted up, over four hundred gas jets will be burning. At all times one small jet will be kept alight, so that the janitor from the main floor, by merely pulling a cord, can move the lever and let the gas on in full force. The single jet will then light all the four hundred by merely setting fire to the escaping inflammable vapor. This ingenious gas contrivance for increasing the danger of the building is being carried out by Morgan Jones, of the Sixth Ward.

But it is not until the visitor descends to the basement that he is fully made aware of the extent of danger to which the persons who may congregate in this church will be subjected. The beams and joists which are to support the terraced floor, on which, it is variously estimated, from 3,000 to 5,000 persons may congregate, are of the most flimsy character. The columns under the girders are made of pine, 7½ inches in diameter, and placed at intervals of ten feet from the centres. Some of these pine columns are even now splintered, from some cause. The joists which connect the beams are, in some instances, sixteen feet long, nine inches deep, and but three inches in thickness. And even these fragile supports to the floor are placed at intervals of from sixteen to eighteen inches apart. A common tenement-house would not be permitted to have such slight supports for the floorings, and yet this is all that is to hold up a large floor on which over 3,000 persons may at any time be congregated. In the basement are to be placed the stoves for heating the building, and, although the ceilings are low, nothing but a lath and plaster protection is to be given. A complete net-work of standing, made of pine, to form the partitions between the class-rooms, &c., can now easily be seen, which studding, although giving no support to the floor above, being rather a dead weight than otherwise, adds greatly to the danger from fire. Should a fire occur in the basement, from the heaters or otherwise, the great extent of pine flooring of the Church above, together with the pine studs, their joists, and wooden columns, would feed the flames with great rapidity, and cause so much heat within the building as would, in all probability, strip off the corrugated iron from the concealed wood-work before a good supply of water could be brought to bear.

OUR IMPROVEMENTS.

Enlargement of the New-York Times Publication Office.

The great increase in the circulation of TIMES has rendered it necessary to add very largely to our business facilities. After a consultation with Mr. Thomas Jackson, the architect of the building, it was resolved to add to the office the adjoining saloon of Nash & Fuller's restaurant establishment. Of the three included in that place, this was the largest, and the additional space so gained would enable the manager to increase the capacities of the TIMES office to a point commensurate with its hourly swelling wants. This has now been done, and the result adds greatly to the appearance of the interior, both from the elegance of the arrangements, and the good taste and liberality of the decorations. The old office has been completely changed. The cashier's and publisher's departments, which occupied the right-hand part of the place, have been removed, and a superb black-walnut counter sweeps from end to end, for the accommodation of subscribers and advertisers. The counter has a breadth of nearly four feet, and at convenient intervals are the desks of the advertising and subscription clerks, and the book-keepers. These and the counter are decorated with panels of French walnut, of specially-chosen veneers. The latter, also, is furnished with a United States mail-box, having two entrances, one for the clerks, and the other for the general public. The letters fall into a box strongly fastened with a patent padlock, of which the key is in the custody of the postman. This box is concealed by a panel, which glides back when a button is pressed. By the advertising desk is another postal box, for answers to advertisers.

The TIMES advertising business is managed on a very complete system. A merchant advertisers for an assistant of some sort; if he prefers it, he has the answers directed to the TIMES Office, Box No. 285. Behind the advertising desk there is the case for these communications, a series of pigeon-holes numbered from one up to many hundreds, and the letters of the alphabet. The merchant gets a ticket on which is marked, "TIMES Office, Dec. 24, 1872. This entitles the bearer to the letters in Box No. 285, addressed" to whatever designation he has adopted. Frequently a single advertisement receives hundreds of answers. The rear of the counter is fitted up with drawers and pigeon-holes in the most complete style to answer every possible need. Two great Herring safes are built into the wall, and in the very centre there is a little gulf, a yawning hollow neatly arched over with black-walnut. This is technically the box, the vehicle for carrying papers between the editorial rooms and the counting-house. Arrayed at various intervals along the wall are German-silver pipes by which oral communication can be had with the different editorial rooms, the composing-room, the press-room, and the mail-room.

This completes the old office. It communicates with the new quarters by arched spaces which have been broken through the wall, and which add greatly to the appearance of the establishment. The pavement of the new place, like the old, is of colored marbles. Half the space is unincloses; the remainder comprises a series of rooms, small but compact, and elegantly furnished. These belong to the publishing department. First in the unincloses space are two broad square desks, with deep drawers like those of architects, about three feet high, which contain, one stationery, the other files of the paper. Against the walls are two really superb wardrobes for the hats and great-coats of the clerks and officials. These are in black-walnut, with French panels, but the panels are extremely broad and of almost the entire length of the wardrobe. Between the two desks is a neat apparatus for heating by the most approved radiating principle. The first room of the series is occupied by Mr. George Jones. On the wall are three fine engravings—one of Mr. Jones, one of Mr. Raymond, and the third of E. B. Morgan, of Aurora, a proprietor of the TIMES, and one of the stanchest Republicans in the country. From this room the visitor steps into the Cashier's Department, which occupies a kind of angle in the building, and is very large and spacious. The entrance is from Park-row, and the desk is guarded by a plate-glass top, which brings it up to seven feet in height.

Next to Mr. Jones' office is another, used by him as his private room. A large Herring safe is built into the wall for the private papers of the firm, and the room is richly and tastefully fitted up. Next to this room is that of Mr. Gilbert E. Jones, the Superintendent. Beyond these offices are two others, the first occupied by the mail agent of the weekly and semi-weekly issues of the TIMES. The last of the series is devoted to the use of the foremen of the mail and press rooms.

The walls throughout have been painted a delicate blue, with a light frescoing along the border of the black-walnut wainscot. The cornice is painted of an orange tawny hue, in what the architects call grecques. There is no ceiling, as the building is fire-proof, and the space between the floors are occupied by iron girders. These have been very elegantly frescoed in the Pompeian style by Garibaldi, and the result is to increase the effect of airiness and to hide the grimness of the material. Down-stairs, fresh space has been added for the accommodation of two new engines and boilers. Fortified by these improvements and enlarged facilities, the publisher will be able to transact his immense business with more ease and certainty than was possible in the old office. Other improvements are contemplated in the establishment, in order that the general business may be carried on with celerity and precision.

The TIMES has now a larger subscription list than at any previous period of its existence, and its advertising business is much greater than it has ever been in the history of the paper.

A Mathematic Son Goes Married and is Locked Up.

From the Pittsburg (Penn.) Commercial, Dec. 24.

Last evening, a mysterious "case" occupied a cell at the Central Station-house. The prisoner was a well-dressed young man who had been provided with an agon-chair in his cell, in which he can wait his bed back to the bars, and stoutly refused to be interviewed, or even make known his trouble. All our reporter could learn was, that the young man had been married, during the day, contrary to the wishes of his parents. Shortly after the ceremony he was brought to the lock-up on a charge of incorrigibility. It appears that the new husband is only between twenty and twenty-one years of age, and that being under age it is the intention of his parents to send him to the House of Refuge for not obeying their mandates. His young wife visited him during the evening and offered him consolation. The case will likely be disposed of today.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Can This Be True?

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Although the Metropolitan Gas Company has reduced the price from 30 to 27½, my bills for the past months are rather more than they were before the reduction.

We burn the same number of burners, have had no occasion for extra use of gas, and yet the bills are larger. I know of a case where a family, discontented at the exorbitant charges of the above Company, used candles from the day the more was caused till the next bill was presented, one month, and sure enough, the amount of bill for that month was for so many feet of gas, when not an inch was burned.

If that was not bare-faced swindling, then honesty is played out. DIOGENES.

[Our correspondent gives us his name and address, but is be willing to mention the "family" which, according to his account, were the victims of an incredible extortion? His story is so strange that we cannot but think he has made some mistake about it.]

Mr. Abram S. Hewitt and Tammany.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I have had my attention called to an article which you published yesterday, entitled "A Few Words of Reminder to the Democratic Leaders," in which you refer to me in words so kindly expressed that I am glad to avail of the opportunity to explain the position in which I have placed myself in regard to Tammany, and which you are pleased to regard as "unnatural." I am by conviction a Democrat, which, you will admit, is not a just ground for censure. So long as there are Democrats, it is evident that they must connect themselves with some organization if they desire to give effect to their principles. The organization in this City had fallen under the control of corrupt politicians, with whom it was impossible for honest men to co-operate, and hence they were practically excluded from all participation in local politics. You complain that Mr. Tilden and myself did not denounce these politicians in public, although you declare that we despised them in our hearts. I will not undertake to speak for Mr. Tilden, because he needs no defense from me, but you do me injustice when I am sure you will be glad to repair. I am not what is called a "speaker," and until the recent election, have not made a political address of any kind in New-York for over fifteen years. My legal residence during all this time has been in New-Jersey, where I have occasionally made addresses, which did not permit of reference to the local politics of New-York City. So far as I am concerned, therefore, I have had no opportunity to make what is called a "public" declaration of my opinions in New-York, until I felt constrained by the very peculiar position of the Democratic Party in this City to take an active part in its reorganization. But so far as a frank and open expression of opinion in the circles in which I moved, some of them, such as the clubs, of a quasi public character, I do not think that any one will accuse me of ever having failed to do my full duty, in denouncing the acts and the designs of the unprincipled ring of political adventurers who had ruined the Democratic Party in this City by prostituting its principles and organization to the plunder of the public treasury. Especially when the present charter was proposed, and the "Ring" succeeded, by the aid of Mr. Sands, in persuading Mr. Peter Cooper, with whom I live when in New-York, that they intended henceforth to govern the City honestly, I did not hesitate to denounce the whole scheme in public and private as a fraud, and I entreated Mr. Cooper not to be deceived into the support of so transparent a piece of legerdemain, and I was one of the few men who urged upon Mr. Tilden the duty of opposing it before the Legislature, a duty which he fearlessly and ably performed, when even the TIMES was deceived into the support of this crowning act of political impudence. The success of the "Ring" in passing that charter re-established them in power at a time when their sway was broken; made them independent of the people, rendering all elections nugatory for four years; concentrated in four men all the legislative power of the City Government, and enabled them, two months after, to perpetrate that audacious robbery known as the six million special audit, which was the basis of the suits brought by Mr. O'Conor and Mr. Tilden. This act was passed by a nearly unanimous vote of both parties in the Legislature, under what influences it is difficult to conceive, unless they were the same which prevailed with the active agent of the Citizens' Association. Shortly after the passage of the charter, circumstances called me to Europe, and during my absence the Cooper Institute meeting was held, and the Committee of Seventy was formed, so that I was deprived of the privilege and honor of sharing in a movement which had my entire sympathy and which I regarded then, and still regard, as most creditable to the moral force of the community, in which I had never lost faith.

On my return home I found Mr. Tilden immersed in the laborious and intricate examinations which resulted in the demonstration of the frauds which all believed, but no one had proved to exist. What I could do to assist in this labor I did; but I did not deem it necessary to get my words blazoned in print, especially as I had been absent in the heat of the battle; but there is merit in following up a victory and securing its fruits. One of these fruits of victory was the abandonment of Tammany Hall by the leaders who had so long ruled it with a rod of iron, and plunged it into an abyss of odium which made it offensive to the community and dangerous to the reputation of any honorable man to enter. And yet it was evident to every reflecting Democrat that the party must and would have an organization, and that, if honest men should refuse to take the control of it, it would fall into the hands of even worse men than those who had just been driven out in disgrace. The situation was very discouraging, and I confess it at it required all the moral courage and public spirit which I possess to bring me to the resolution to join with the little band of noble men, at the head of whom stands John Kelly, to whom this City owes a debt of eternal gratitude in the thankless and the repulsive task of rebuilding from the wreck of Tammany a structure which would cover what remained of the Democratic organization in the City of New-York. It was and has been nearer scavengers' work than anything I have ever attempted; but it was a necessary work, and we decided and have tried to perform it, and in the main we have done it well; and, although we never expected any credit for it, I have no hesitation in saying that we are entitled to sympathy, and a proper construction of our motives, even if we have made a blunder. But surely it is no blunder to attempt the work of reform any where where reform is needed. The TIMES believed in the reform of the Erie Railway, but, in order to secure it, it never proposed to destroy the railroad itself. The TIMES was the great advocate of reform in the City Government, but in order to secure it it never proposed to blot the City out of existence. Why should Tammany be the only exception to the policy of reform, by remodeling and restoring it to a condition of respectability and of usefulness in which all good men may take part?

It seemed to me then, and I still believe, that if we had not installed ourselves in the vacant seats of the departed and discredited leaders, the great bulk of the rank and file of the Democratic Party would have drifted into the ranks of the Apollo Hall organization, the inevitable consequence of which would have been, the election of O'Brien as Mayor. I believe that it was our work in Tammany Hall, supplemented by the noble spirit of self-sacrifice shown by Abraham R. Lawrence in accepting a hopeless nomination, which caused the election of Mr. Havemeyer, and gives good ground for hope that the work of reform, so auspiciously begun, will be fully completed, unless, indeed, the offices are all bargained away, and the Legislature so "fixed" in advance, that the expressed will and earnest desire of the people shall be defeated. In that case you will find me, and, I believe, that you will find Tammany Hall, as now organized, battling for the right as earnestly as you may desire; and I am inclined to believe that you will then regard the reform and secession of "Tammany" as one of the best, wisest, and most fortunate of results of the late political revolution, exercising a powerful influence in favor of good government, instead of being, as it surely would have been, an efficient agency in the effort now being openly made to place and retain bad men in power.

Again acknowledging the courtesy of your allusion to my course, which alone makes this communication proper, I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

ABRAM S. HEWITT.

NEW-YORK, Wednesday, Dec. 25, 1872.

MORE PISTOL PRACTICE.

Shooting Affray in a Mulberry-street Bull-House—An Italian Laborer Seriously Wounded.

Louis Arratta, an Italian, was shot and dangerously wounded while leaving the dance-house, No. 218 Mulberry-street, at 2 o'clock last night. Arratta and his brother John, both of whom are street sweepers, and reside at No. 26 Baxter-street, visited the dance-house in question, and John became engaged in a quarrel with John Sacchiera, the proprietor, and the latter drew a sheath-knife and cut him severely in the left side of the face. The affray caused a panic in the room, and Louis Arratta, coming to his brother's assistance, shoved away Sacchiera, and took the wounded man to the door, intending to carry him to the hospital. The two men were going up the steps, the saloon being in the basement, when a pistol, fired from within, sent a bullet into Louis Arratta's right shoulder, and another ball, fired immediately after, took effect in his right arm. On reaching the sidewalk, the brother, John, accompanied by two others, went to the Sixth Precinct Station-house, and officers were immediately sent to the scene of the shooting, and arrested Sacchiera, who was locked up. Meanwhile the wounded man, who had been left on a stoop in Mulberry-street, could not be found, and it was not for some time discovered that he had walked down to the Park Hospital, where his wounds were treated by Dr. Hemmingway. A bullet was extracted from the arm, but the shoulder wound was not reached. The wounds are considered dangerous, but the chances are in favor of Arratta's recovery. His brother's wounds are not serious. So far as could be ascertained, none of the parties were intoxicated at the time of the affray.

Compliment to Gov. Hoffman.

Gov. Hoffman has declined an invitation to a public dinner, tendered him by prominent citizens of Albany, on the ground that by reason of engagements, private and official, he would be unable to name a day before his retirement from the office and departure from the city. He, however, says: "I have enjoyed my residence in Albany. My social pleasures have been very great, while the invigorating climate of your city has conferred on me and on my family increased health and strength. From all classes of its citizens I have been in the constant receipt of courtesies and kindness, and have had, from men of both political parties, a generous support in the discharge of my public duties. I separate myself from the people of Albany with regret, and shall cherish the memory of my days spent among them."

THE GREAT ATTRACTION.—The great attraction of this week is the magnificent new rooms of the Wilson Sewing-machine Company, at the corner of Superior and Bond streets. Crowds of people may be seen in and about the place at any hour of the day or evening, gazing at the superb carpets, the frescoing, the gilding, and, last but not least, the beautifully carved furniture, and the general elegance of everything about. A prominent business man of this City remarked after visiting the rooms of old place, that "This is up to the style of the Erie Railway offices in New-York." The lady visitors almost without exception, sit down and try one of the machines and always conclude that the Wilson Improved Sewing-machine is the model perfection of the admirable concern. They are not mistaken. In beauty of form and finish, in ease and precision of work, and in perfect capacity for any kind of sewing, the Wilson machine is unsurpassed. Call at the new rooms and see it work.—*Sewing Daily Leader.*

Salesroom at No. 707 Broadway, New-York, and in all other cities in the United States. The Company want agents in country towns.—*Advertisement.*

WATCH No. 12,002, STEM-WINDER—bearing trade mark "United States Watch Co., Marion, N. J."—manufactured by the United States Watch Com. (Giles, Wales & Co.), has been carried by me two months, its total variation from mean time being six seconds in the entire time.—W. S. DUNN, of H. B. Claflin & Co., New-York.—*Advertisement.*

Burnett's Cooking Extracts

ARE THE BEST.—*Advertisement.*

For cleaning and dyeing the best in City, go to LOHR's, No. 630 Broadway, near Bleecker-street, and No. 634 Broadway, below Twenty-second-street. —*Advertisement.*

Any one curious to see a sample of the famous and favorite "Knabe Piano" should call at the great warerooms of J. BAUER & CO., No. 650 Broadway.—*Advertisement.*

Extra Dry Cabinet

OF

MOET & CHANDON,

AT

ACKER, MERRALL & CONDIT,

Chambers-st. and Broadway, and 4th-st.

Extract Cashmere Bouquet.

For the handkerchief.

CASHMERE BOUQUET TOILET SOAP,

MADE BY COLGATE & CO.

Batchelor's Hair Dye is the Best in the world—the only safe, true and perfect hair dye. No ridiculous tints, no disappointment, no risk, reliable, instantaneous black or brown. All druggists and No. 16 Bond-st.

Wood Carpeting; No. 949 Broadway. Send stamp for illustrated price-list; from 25c. per foot.

Sterling Silver Dinner Services at very close prices, by the manufacturers, FORD & TUPPER, No. 1,155 Broadway, between 26th and 27th sts.

Oatmeal Soap, (Inderical,) for the complexion; better than any cosmetic; a perfect Winter Soap. HEGEMAN & CO., Broadway.

Wedding Cards, Elegant Styles, at WM. EVERDELL'S SONS', No. 104 Fulton-st.

New-York Sewing Machine Works, No. 37 Nassau-st., New-York.

MARRIED.

HAVEMEYER—FRANCIS.—At the United States Legation, Athens, Greece, on Saturday, Dec. 21, 1872, by Rev. Dr. Hill, JOHN C. HAVEMEYER, of New-York, to ALICE L., daughter of Hon. John M. Francis, of Troy, N. Y., United States Minister to Greece.

LAFARLE—FLINN.—On Tuesday, Dec

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.

Today, at the Exchange, the following sales will take place, at which real estate as noted will be offered:

By A. J. Bleecker, Son & Co., at public auction, the house and lot No. 115 East Seventeenth-street, between Fourth-avenue and Irving-place; lot, 25 by one-half the block; and the house and lot No. 207 West Twenty-second-street.

By Jere. Johnson, Jr., as an adjourned executor's sale, a house and lot on the east side of Norfolk-street, 200 feet south of Grand-street; lot, 25 by 100.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

HOUSES FOR SALE

BY

E. H. LUDLOW & CO.,

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

[illegible]

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

Central N. J. Land Improvement Co.

Have for sale on the line of the Central Railroad of New-Jersey, and Newark and New-York Railroad.

MANUFACTORY SITES,

Near and remote from the City; also large buildings hereafter used for that purpose.

Also,

Houses, Lots, Farms, &c.,

At all points on the line of the above roads.

Apply to

A. D. HOPE, or
ELSTON MARSH,
No. 110 Liberty-st.

WATER FRONT FOR FACTORIES, ROPE WALKS, LUMBER-YARDS, &c.—LOTS FOR SALE ON DEVOE'S Island, Newtown Creek, near East River, adjoining New-York and Brooklyn Cities; prices $200 to $1,000; terms easy. Apply to A. S. SCHIEFFELIN, No. 15 East 26th-st.

ORANGE, N. J.—COUNTRY HOUSES, Villas, and Cottages for sale; a great variety. Also, some choice Building Lots, with all the improvements, or improved, by WALTER E. SMITH, formerly Newark and Orange, corner Main and Cone-sts.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

A. J. BLEECKER, Auctioneer.

ON TUESDAY, DEC. 26, THAT VALUABLE three-story brick high-basement house, No. 115 East 17th-st., north side, five doors from Gram's corner; rent, $3,000.

Also, that four-story English basement furnished house, No. 227 West 23d-st., near 7th-av.; a 18 per cent investment.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

TO LET,

AN OLD-ESTABLISHED TEA-STORE, Nos. 2, 2a, and 26 Vesey-st., corner of Church, now occupied by the United States Tea Company. Possession 1st February next. Apply to J. & J. W. MEEKS, No. 30 Vesey-st., Room No. 4.

OFFICES TO LET

IN

TIMES BUILDING.

SPLENDID OFFICES TO LET IN THE FIRE-PROOF TIMES BUILDING.

Apply at TIMES COUNTING-ROOM.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

UNFURNISHED.

TO LET—FIRST FLOOR, NO. 220 WEST 37TH-st., fronting Central Park, four rooms, $12.

SURROGATE NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against LOUIS G. NEUSTADTER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at his place of business, No. 12 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 23d day of December next.—Dated, New-York, the 26th day of June, 1872. HENRY NEUSTADTER, Executor.

jy27-1awfwTh*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against WILLIAM T. BUNK, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscribers, at the office of Benjamin F. Bateman, No. 257 Broadway, in the City of New-York, on or before the 1d day of April next.—Dated New-York, the 12th day of September, 1872.

ELIZABETH P. BUNK, Administratrix.
BENJAMIN F. BATEMAN, Administrator.

s23-1awfwTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against JANE McCREA, late of the City of New-York deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at his residence, No. 26 Union-square, in the City of New-York, on or before the 26th day of March next.—Dated, New-York, the 26th day of September, 1872.

PENELOPE McCREA, Executrix.

s23-1awfwTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against CATHARINE OTTER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at the residence of John Gardiner, No. 243 East 56th-street, in the City of New-York, on or before the 12th day of February next.—Dated New-York, the 7th day of August, 1872.

HENRY OTTER,
JOHN GARDINER,
Executors.

au3-1awfwTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF Robert C. Hutchings, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against GEORGE T. STUART, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same, with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, Benjamin L. Lodington, at his office, No. 12 Wall-st, in the City of New-York, on or before the 26th day of June next.—Dated New-York, the 17th day of December, 1872. ELLEN S. JUAY, Administratrix.
B. L. LUDINGTON, Administrator.

d12-1awfwTu*

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF ROBERT C. HUTCHINGS, Esq., Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against FRANCIS S. BARNS, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof, to the subscriber, at her place of transacting business, at the office of Andrews & Stoughton, No. 41 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 15th day of May next.—Dated New-York, the 15th day of November, 1872.

CHARLOTTE AUGUSTA BARNS, Executrix.

d14-1awfwTu*

FINANCIAL.

I., B., & W.

EXTENSION RAILWAY

First Mortgage 7 per Cent. Convertible

GOLD BONDS,

COUPONS PAYABLE JANUARY AND JULY.

THE INDIANAPOLIS, BLOOMINGTON and WESTERN ROAD from Indianapolis to Attica, 95½ miles, HAS BEEN IN OPERATION TWO YEARS, and has not earnings sufficient to guarantee punctual payment on all obligations of the Company, including the bonds on the Extension of 117 miles, and which, it is estimated, will have, when completed, an income larger than that of the old road at the present time.

Nearly 100 miles of the Extension is finished, and the whole will be completed during 1873, making a trunk line, under one corporation, of 200 miles, in a section not surpassed by any in the West.

It is seldom as strong a security is offered at the low price of 90 AND INTEREST.

We recommend these Bonds as one of the most desirable securities in the market for all investors, and especially to banks, insurance companies, and for the use of trust funds.

All having large investments to make are invited to go over the line and make personal examination.

Pamphlets, maps, &c., furnished on application.

Turner Brothers,

Bankers, No. 14 Nassau-st.

THE

NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY,

OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,

Nos. 263 AND 265 BROADWAY, CORNER OF WARREN-ST.

Capital, - - - - - $1,000,000

Pays Four per Cent. Interest per Annum on Deposits, Subject to Check at Sight.

Pays Five Per Cent. Interest Per Annum on Special Deposits Remaining Six Months or Longer.

ACTS AS TRUSTEE FOR ESTATES, and especially for RAILROAD MORTGAGE BONDS.

D. R. MANGAN, President.

D. L. SOLOMON, First Vice-President.
R. F. BANCROFT, Second Vice-President.

JAMES MERRELL, Secretary.

Howes & Macy, Bankers,

NO. 30 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK,

Offer the same facilities to Depositors as Incorporated Banks, and allow Interest on daily Balances at the rate of Four per Cent.

Collections made on any point at current rates, with immediate returns.

Special attention paid to choice Stock, Bonds, &c., &c., for Investors.

EDWARD HAIGHT & CO. BANKERS,

NO. 9 WALL-ST., N. Y.

FIVE PER CENT. Interest Allowed on Deposits.

The business of our firm is the same as any State or National Bank.

Individuals or firms banking with us may deposit and draw as they please, the same as with any bank; and as these are allowed Five per Cent. Interest on all balances.

We buy and sell Bonds, Stocks, Gold, Business paper, and collect Business Drafts throughout the United States, giving prompt returns.

Evansville City, Ind.

7 per Ct. Bonds at 82 1-2 and Interest.

A FIRST-CLASS SECURITY.

For sale by

GEO. OPDYKE & CO.,

NO. 25 NASSAU-ST.

ILLINOIS REGISTERED BONDS.

We offer for sale the following:

$41,000 WHITE COUNTY, 5 per ct., 20 yrs.
93,000 JOHNSON COUNTY, 8 per ct., 20 yrs.
95,000 PULASKI COUNTY, 8 per ct., 20 yrs.
95,000 ALEXANDER COUNTY, 8 p. c., 20 yrs.
95,000 CAIRO CITY, 8 per ct., 20 yrs.
15,000 CARMI TOWN, 8 per ct., 20 yrs.
14,000 GRAYVILLE TOWN, 8 per ct., 20 yrs.

The interest on these bonds is paid by the State Treasurer in New-York, and by the laws governing their issue, they are made as safe as State Bonds.

WINSLOW & WILSON,

NO. 70 WILLIAM-ST.

HOUSTON & TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY

FIRST MORTGAGE LAND GRANT

7 Per Cent. Gold Bonds,

FOR SALE BY

JOHN J. CISCO & SON,

NO. 59 WALL-ST.

10 PER CENT. KANSAS SCHOOL BONDS
10 PER CENT. NEBRASKA SCHOOL BONDS

The safest and most remunerative of bond investments.

Total amount of Kansas School Bonds issued to Jan. 1, 1872, $1,999,600; amount outstanding Jan. 1, 1873, $1,236,318.

Balance has been redeemed.

Choice lots for sale below par by

FITCH, OTIS & CO.,
No. 11 Pine-st., New-York.

EVANSVILLE AND CRAWFORDSVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company for the sale to the Trustees of sixteen (16) bonds of the January issue.

Proposals should be directed to R. G. Bolston, President, No. 26 Exchange-place, and must be presented on or before 12 o'clock M., on the 6th proximo.

R. G. BOLSTON,
President Farmers' Loan and Trust Company.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.,

BANKERS, NO. 8 WALL-ST, NEW-YORK, ISSUE CIRCULAR LETTERS OF CREDIT ON MUNROE & CO., PARIS, AND ON THE CONSOLIDATED BANK, LONDON.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,

NO. 59 WALL-ST,

ISSUE COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

TREASURER'S OFFICE,
CITY OF ALLEGHENY, Dec. 15, 1872.

ALLEGHENY CITY COMPROMISE BONDS WANTED.

Persons holding Compromise Bonds of the City of Allegheny, Penna, are hereby notified that the SINKING FUND for 1872 will be invested in those Bonds at the lowest rates offered.

Proposals will be received by the undersigned until WEDNESDAY, Jan. 1, 1873.

D. MACPHERSON,
Treasurer of the City of Allegheny, Penn.

OFFICE CENTRAL PETROLEUM CO.,
No. 42 PINE-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1872.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of the Central Petroleum Company for the election of trustees to serve for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before them, will be held at the office of the Company on MONDAY, Jan. 4, 1873, at noon.

Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M.

LOUIS J. BELLONI, Jr., Secretary.

DESTROYED IN MY SAFE IN THE office of Boston Bank of the 9th and 10th of Nov., 1872, certificate No. 200, for fifty shares of the capital stock of the Silver Mining Company of Silver Islet, Lake Superior, standing in the name of A. W. Spencer. All persons are hereby notified that the above certificate, at the office of said Company, No. 52 Broadway, New-York City, why a new certificate should not be issued in lieu thereof.

A. W. SPENCER.

A MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF the American Metallic Company, for the election of officers and the transaction of other business, will be held at the office of Hilton, Campbell & Bell, No. 39 Broadway, New-York, on the 27th day of December, 1872, at 12 M.

STUART GWYNN, Vice-President.
L. HARRINGTON, Secretary.

OLD INDIANA STATE BONDS WITH coupons attached wanted. GEO. K. BISTARE, No. 34 Nassau-st.

FINANCIAL.

MIDLAND FIRST MORTGAGE

7 Per Cent. Gold Bonds,

ISSUED BY THE MONTCLAIR RAILWAY CO.

AND

GUARANTEED BY NEW-YORK MIDLAND.

The MONTCLAIR is the DIRECT and SHORT LINE OF THE MIDLAND through New-Jersey. Its bonds are issued on the basis of half cost. They are GUARANTEED. It is a home road, running DIRECT FROM THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, secured of a large business and a fine future. THIS BOND OFFERS AN ADVANTAGE OVER ALL THE OTHER MIDLAND FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, IN THAT, WITH EQUAL SECURITY, IT IS LESS IN PRICE.

We commend it to investors.

For sale by

Allen, Stephens & Co.,

BANKERS,

NO. 52 PINE-ST.

LAKE SHORE AND MICHIGAN SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY

NEW SINKING FUND BONDS,

COUPON AND REGISTERED.

$6,000,000,

Bonds due Oct. 1, 1862, with Interest at Seven per Cent., payable semi-annually, April and October, at the office of the Union Trust Co. of New-York.

$600,000, or Ten Per Cent. of the Loan, to be retired annually by the Sinking Fund.

Coupon Bonds of.....$1,000 each.
Registered Bonds of $1,000, $5,000, and $10,000 each.

Price, 92 1-2 and Accrued Interest.

ROBINSON, CHASE & CO.,

BANKERS, NO. 11 BROAD-ST.

VERMILYE & CO.

BANKERS,

16 and 18 Nassau-st., New-York.

DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.
FIRST-CLASS RAILROAD AND MUNICIPAL BONDS ALWAYS ON HAND FOR INVESTMENT.
BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD, MAKING LIBERAL ADVANCES.

INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

WOOD & DAVIS,

BANKERS

AND

DEALERS IN RAILROAD BONDS,

Keep on hand a variety of choice bonds to supply investors, furnish bonds advertised on the market at subscription prices, execute orders for Government securities, gold and railroad stocks, and do a

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS,

NO. 31 PINE-ST.

G. D. WOOD, SAM'L D. DAVIS,
Formerly of Vermilye & Co.

AUSTIN, BALDWIN & CO.,

BANKERS, NO. 74 BROADWAY.

Letters of Credit for travelers, and Bills of Exchange issued on all the principal cities of Europe. Correspondents in London:

CITY BANK OF LONDON.

THE MILWAUKEE AND NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY

Has completed and equipped ninety miles of its road, and trains are now running to Menasha, where connection is made with the Wisconsin Central. The First Mortgage Bondof the Company bear 8 per cent. interest, payable June and December, and can be issued only as the road progresses, and at the rate of but $10,000 per mile. The line connects Milwaukee with Green Bay, by the shortest practicable route, and the country through which it passes is densely populated. The enterprise is a legitimate one, and the parties in interest are among the best business men of Milwaukee.

A large portion of the loan has been taken by parties who have made the fullest investigation, and the balance is offered in sums to suit, by

GREENLEAF NORRIS & CO.
No. 68 Exchange-place.

SOUTH SIDE RAILROAD,

OF LONG ISLAND,

FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS FOR SALE.

JACOB B. SHIPHERD & CO.,

NO. 24 PINE-ST., NEW-YORK.

Descriptive pamphlets furnished upon application.

ATLANTIC INSURANCE SCRIP BOUGHT AND SOLD BY

WM. C. GILMAN, No. 48 Pine-st.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,
No. 51 WALL-ST, CORNER OF WILLIAM,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1872.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY will close on the 31st inst., preparatory to the annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks which shall have terminated during the year prior to the 1st of January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon, with assessments of all claims for returns of premiums, to prevent discrepancies in the accounts.

J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

FAIRCHANCE IRON COMPANY,
FAIRCHANCE, Penn., Dec. 28, 1872.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.—THE ANNUAL meeting of stockholders of the Fairchance Iron Company will be held at the office of G. A. Thomson, Esq., in the Borough of Uniontown, Fayette County, Penn., on the 4 WEDNESDAY (eighth day) of January next, at 2 P. M., for the purpose of electing Directors for the ensuing year.

JOHN WILSON, Secretary.

NINTH NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-room, No. 467 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1873, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M.

JOHN T. HILL, Cashier.

FROM THIS DATE THE FOURTH NATIONAL Bank is the depository and only financial agent of the State of Georgia in the City of New-York. Wire-marked State Bonds can be exchanged for Seven per Cent. Redemption Bonds, and semi-annual currency coupons paid at maturity.

N. L. ANGIER, State Treasurer of Georgia.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 3, 1872.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK,
CORNER BOWERY AND BROOME-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will take place at the banking-house, on TUESDAY, the 14th day of January next. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 P. M.

GEORGE W. YOULE, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, NO. 11 WALL-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Company will be held at the office of the Company on MONDAY, Jan. 6, 1873. The polls will be open from 12 M. to 2 P. M.

D. T. SHEDD, Secretary.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank and Inspectors of Election will be held at the banking-room on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1873. Polls open from 12 M. to 1 o'clock P. M.

ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

BANK OF NORTH AMERICA,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking house, No. 44 Wall-st., on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1873, from 12 to 1 P. M.

J. A. BEARDSLEY, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NO. 257 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-house, on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1873, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M.

A. S. APGAR, Cashier.

LOST—CERTIFICATE OF DEBT OF RICHMOND, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company, No. 223, dated Nov. 1, 1854, for $124 10, and bearing six per cent. interest.

Application has been made to said Company for renewal of the same.

E. A. LIVINGSTON.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1872.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this bank will be held at the banking-room, on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1873, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M.

W. E. MELLER, Cashier.

FINANCIAL.

LOAN FOR $847,500

FOR THE

DEFICIENCY IN THE SINKING FUND,

UNDER

Section 3, Article 7, of the Constitution.

The Commissioners of the Canal Fund, by virtue of the act entitled "An act to provide means to support the Government," passed April 12, 1858, and in accordance with section twelve of article seven of the Constitution, hereby give notice that sealed proposals will be received at the Canal Department until the TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF DECEMBER INST., at 12 o'clock noon of that day, for a loan of

Eight Hundred and Forty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars,

for which transferable Certificates of Stock, PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYABLE IN GOLD, either Registered or Coupon, at the option of the purchaser, will be issued in the name of the People of the State of New-York, on the credit of the Sinking Fund, under section three, article seven, of the Constitution, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually on the first days of July and January in each year, and the principal reimbursable on the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three.

It is to be understood that the Commissioners are to be at liberty to accept or reject any or all proposals, if the offers are not such as in their opinion are advantageous to the interests of the State.

The proposals may be for the whole, or any part of said loan not less than $5,000.

All proposals to be sealed up and indorsed "Loan for the Sinking Fund" and inclosed in an envelope directed to the Auditor of the Canal Department, Albany, N. Y.

The money will be required to be paid in gold coin on the acceptance of the proposal, or by the first day of December instant.

Payments to be made by depositing the same to the credit of the Treasurer of the State of New-York, on account of the Canal Fund, with the bank of the Manhattan Company, New-York.

The stock returning on the 1st day of January, 1873, will be issued on payment for subscriptions to the new loan, at par.

Interest on the loan will commence on the first day of January next, and be payable semi-annually on the 1st days of July and January, at the Bank of the Manhattan Company, in the City of New-York.

Dated Canal Department, Albany, Dec. 5, 1872.

ALLEN C. BEACH, Lieutenant-Governor.
NELSON K. HOPKINS, Comptroller.
G. HILTON SCRIBNER, Secretary of State.
THOMAS RAINES, Treasurer.
FRANCIS C. BARLOW, Attorney-General.

DIVIDENDS.

THE COUPONS DUE JAN. 1, 1873, ON the Bonds of the INDIANA AND ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, will be paid by WALKER, ANDREWS & CO., No. 14 Wall-st., in gold, on and after Jan. 2, 1873.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY,
OFFICE NO. 227 SOUTH 4TH-ST.,
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23, 1872.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The transfer-books of this Company will be closed on the 31st of December next, and reopened on TUESDAY, Jan. 14, 1873.

A dividend of FIVE PER CENT. has been declared on the preferred and common shares of all kinds, payable in cash, on and after the 24th of January next, to the holders thereof as they stand registered on the books of the Company at the close of business on the 31st of December. Will payable at this office.

Blank orders for dividends can be obtained at this office.

S. BRADFORD, Treasurer.

BROOKLYN FIRE INSURANCE CO.

CHARTERED 1824.

OFFICES,

No. 191 BROADWAY, corner Dey-st., New-York.
No. 339 COURT-ST., corner Kosciusko, Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 18, 1872.

55TH DIVIDEND.

The usual Semi-annual Dividend of TEN (10) per Cent. payable on Jan. 2, 1873, has been declared from the earnings of the last six months.

GEORGE H. BRAND, Secretary.

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY.

The coupons of the Bonds of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company and South Pacific Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1873, will be paid in gold coin, at the National Shoe and Leather Bank, New-York.

A. V. STOUT, Treasurer.

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY.

The coupons of the Second Mortgage Bonds of the Pacific Railroad, of Missouri, due Jan. 1, 1873, will be paid at the National Bank of Commerce, New-York.

A. V. STOUT, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY, No. 36 Exchange-place, (cor. William-st.) NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1872.

AT A MEETING OF THE FINANCE Committee of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, held this day, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That a Dividend of Five per Cent. be declared, payable to the stockholders on the 1st of January, prxsimo, and that the books close on the 25th instant, and be re-opened on the 2d proximo.

Resolved, That the dividends of this Company hereafter be declared quarterly, in the months of February, May, August, and November.

R. G. BOLSTON, President.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY,
NOS. 39 AND 41 WALL-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

FIFTY-EIGHTH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD of Directors have this day declared a dividend of three (3) per cent. out of the earnings of the road for the three months ending 31st inst., payable to stockholders or their legal representatives, on and after the 2d day of January next.

Transfer books will be closed on the afternoon of the 31st inst., and reopened on the morning of the 4th day of January.

JOHN KEELER, Secretary.

UNITED NEW-JERSEY RAILROAD AND CANAL COMPANY,
TRENTON, Dec. 17, 1872.

THE REGULAR QUARTERLY DIVIDEND of two and a half per cent. on the Stock of this Company, will be paid on and after Jan. 10, 1873, at the office of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in Philadelphia, and in No. 57 Broadway, New-York.

The Transfer Books will be closed from Dec. 20, until Jan. 11, 1873.

RICHARD F. STEVENS, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, NO. 12 WILLIAM-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1872.

THE SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST MATURING 1st January, 1873, on the First Mortgage Bonds of the Canada Southern Railway Company will be paid on and after the 2d proximo, at the Union Trust Company of New-York, No. 73 Broadway.

M. COURTRIGHT, President.

THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free from tax, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1873.

The transfer-books will be closed from the 23d inst. until the 2d proximo.

C. F. COLES, Cashier.

OFFICE OF CONSOLIDATION COAL COMPANY OF MARYLAND,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 4, 1872.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Four per Cent. on the capital stock of this Company, payable on and after the 20th proximo. The transfer-books will be closed from Jan. 10 to the 20th, both inclusive.

R. O. HICKS, Treasurer.

BANK OF AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—THE DIRECTORS of the Bank of America have this day declared a dividend of Five (5) per Cent. for the current six months, free from tax, payable to the stockholders on and after TEUSDAY, Jan. 2, 1873.

The transfer-books will remain closed from this date until the morning of Jan. 2, 1873.

ROBERT JAFFRAY, Cashier.

MACON AND WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY,
MACON, Ga., Dec. 21, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF FIVE (5) PER CENT. HAS been declared on the Consolidated first mortgage bonds, at ninety-five, payable 20th January proximo, at the National Bank of the Republic, New-York. Transfer-books closed till payment of dividend.

MILO S. FREEMAN, Treasurer.

EVANSVILLE, HENDERSON, AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY.—The Company having been recently consolidated with the St. Louis and South-eastern Railway Company, the coupons of the bonds will be paid by the St. Louis and South-eastern Railway Company, (consolidated,) at banking-house of Geo. Opdyke & Co., on and after Jan. 2, 1873.

E. F. WINSLOW, President.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE, LANSING, Dec. 23, 1872.

THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1873, on the bonds issued by the State of Michigan, and the two million loan bonds of said State maturing on that day, will be paid at the Mercantile National Bank, in the City of New-York.

V. P. COLLIER, State Treasurer.

THE COUPONS OF THE LAKE ONTARIO SHORE RAILROAD first mortgage 7 per cent. gold bonds, due Jan. 1, 1873, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, 1873, at the office of the undersigned or Geo. Opdyke & Co., No. 25 Nassau-st., New-York.

GILBERT MOLLISON, President.

OSWEGO, N. Y., Dec. 18, 1872.

THE SEMI-ANNUAL INTEREST NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1872.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four Per Cent., free from tax, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1873.

The transfer-books will be closed from the 23d inst. until the 2d proximo.

J. B. DUMONT, Secretary.

OFFICE OF WEST WISCONSIN RAILWAY COMPANY,
NO. 74 BROADWAY,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

THE COUPONS OF THE FIRST mortgage land grant bonds of the West Wisconsin Railway Company, due Jan. 1 next, will be paid in gold, free of Government tax, on and after Jan. 2, at this office.

F. E. TROWBRIDGE, Treasurer.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., free of Tax, payable on 2 January, 1873. The transfer-books will be closed from 23d inst. until that date.

ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT. has this day been declared, free from tax, payable on and after the 23 of January next. The transfer-book will be closed until that date.

O. H. COX, Cashier.

B. R. WATSON, Cashier; SAM'L B. WHITE, President.

GROCERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. WILL be paid to the stockholders of this bank on and after Jan. 1, 1873.

B. R. WATSON, Cashier.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

FORTY-SIXTH DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-annual Dividend of Three Dollars per Share will be paid on and after the 1st day of January ensuing.

J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

HOME, WATERTOWN AND OGDENSBURG RAILROAD,
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, NO. 25 WALL-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The Board of Directors of this Company have declared a dividend of FIVE PER CENT. from earnings and surplus assets, to stockholders of record on the 31st day of December, inst., payable in stock of the Company on and after the 15th day of February, as usual, at the Mercantile National Bank, New-York, and at the Company's office, Watertown. Transfer-books to remain closed from the 1st to the 15th day of January inclusive.

MARCELLUS MASSEY, President.

TO THE HOLDERS OF OHIO STATE STOCKS.—Notice is hereby given that the interest due on the 1st day of January, 1873, on the Funded Debt of the State of Ohio, will be paid at the American Exchange National Bank of New-York City from the 1st to the 15th prox., and thereafter at our office in this City.

The transfer-books will be reopened on the 16th prox.

JAMES WILLIAMS, Auditor of State.
ISAAC G. REEREWOOD, Secretary of State.
FRANCIS B. FOND, Attorney-General.
Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the State of Ohio.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 12, 1872.

OFFICE OF CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, NO. 52 WALL-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF THREE AND A HALF per cent. has been declared upon the Preferred and Common stocks of this Company, payable at this office on and after the 10th inst., to the stockholders of record, at the closing of the books, on the 14th inst.

The transfer-books will reopen on the morning of the 16th inst.

C. H. MARVIN, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY,
NO. 5 PINE-ST.,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1872.

THE COUPONS DUE JAN. 1, 1873, OF THE First Mortgage Bonds of this Company, will be paid on and after that date, at the office of Jay Cooke & Co., New-York. The interest then due upon registered bonds will be paid as heretofore by checks to the order of the bondholders, sent by mail to their address of record. H. KANDT, Treasurer.

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY.—A DIVIDEND ON THE capital stock of the Pacific Railroad (of Missouri) will be paid at the offices of this Company in St. Louis, and at No. 207 Broadway, New-York, Jan. 15, 1873, to stockholders of record of date of Jan. 4, 1873.

The transfer-books will be closed Jan. 4, 1873, to be reopened Jan. 20, 1873.

A. V. STOUT, Treasurer.

THE IMPORTERS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF SEVEN PER CENT. out of the earnings of the last six months, free of all tax, has this day been declared by this bank, payable on the 2d day of January next. The transfer-books will close on the 20th inst. and remain closed until the 2d proximo.

R. H. PERKINS, Jr., Cashier.

OFFICE OF WELLS, FARGO & CO.,
NO. 54 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1872.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS COMPANY have declared a dividend of Four per Cent. on the capital stock, payable on the 2d proximo. The transfer-books will be closed at 3 P. M. on the 24th instant, and reopened at 10 A. M. on the 4th proximo.

THEO. F. WOOD, Assistant Secretary.

HANOVER NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1872.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have THIS DAY declared a Semi-annual Dividend of three and one-half per cent. free of tax, payable on the 2d day of January next.

The transfer-book will be closed from the 21st inst. until that date.

JNO. T. BANKER, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEC. 16, 1872.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a dividend of Three per Cent. free of all tax, payable on and after the 2d day of January next. The transfer-books will be closed from the 20th inst. to the 2d January inclusive.

A. S. APGAR, Cashier.

NATIONAL SHOE AND LEATHER BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1872.

TRIST-EIGHTH DIVIDEND.—THE Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of Six per Cent. payable, free of tax, on and after Jan. 2, 1873.

The transfer-books will be closed from the 21st inst. until the 2d proximo.

J. M. GRANT, Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK,
NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1872.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Six per Cent. free from tax, payable on and after 2d January next. The transfer-books will be closed until 5th of January, 1873.

W. E. MELLER, Cashier.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT. (Three Per Cent.) free of tax, has this day been declared by the Directors of this Bank, payable on and after Jan. 2.

The transfer-book will remain closed from this date to Jan. 4, 1873.

G. M. HARD, Cashier.

THE COUPONS OF THE NEW-JERSEY Midland Railway Company second mortgage seven per cent. currency bonds, due Jan. 1, 1873, will be paid on and after that date, free of Government tax, at the office of the undersigned, or Geo. Opdyke & Co., No. 25 Nassau-st., New-York. The transfer-books of the registered bonds will close on the 20th inst., and reopen Jan. 2, 1873.

H. R. LOW, Treasurer.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 12, 1872.

THE COUPONS OF THE NEW-YORK and Greenwood Cemetery Gold Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1873, will be paid on and after Jan. 2, on presentation at the banking-house of "George Opdyke & Co.," No. 25 Nassau-st., New-York. The transfer-books of the above bonds will close on the 20th inst., and reopen Jan. 2, 1873.

D. C. LITTLEJOHN, President.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1872.

HANOVER FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
NO. 81 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a dividend of Five per Cent., payable on and after Jan. 2, 1873.

The transfer-books will be closed on and after Dec. 19, 1872.

By order of the Board of Directors,

D. D. LEEDS, Secretary.

IRVING NATIONAL BANK,
NEW-YORK, Dec. 18, 1872.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX (6) PER CENT. free of tax, has this day been declared, payable on and after Jan. 2, 1873. The transfer books will remain closed until the 2d proximo.

J. L. JEWETT, Jr.,

SHIPPING.

CUNARD LINE.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAILSTEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

FROM LIVERPOOL.	FROM NEW-YORK.
Abyssinia, Wed'y, Dec. 25.	Java, Wednesday, Jan. 15.
*Cuba, Wednesday, Jan. 1.	Columbia, Wed'day, Jan. 22.
Persia, Wed'day, Jan. 8.	Algeria, Wed'day, Jan. 29.

And every following WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY from New-York.

*Steamers marked thus * do not carry steerage passengers.*

RATES OF PASSAGE.

Cabin, $80, $100, and $120, gold, according to accommodation.

Tickets to Paris, $10 extra, additional.

Excursion tickets to favorable rates.

Through bills of lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp, and other ports on the Continent, and the Mediterranean ports.

For freight or passage apply at the Company's office, No. 4 Bowling-green.

CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

WHITE STAR LINE,

FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

CARRYING THE

UNITED STATES MAIL.

NEW AND FULL-POWERED STEAM-SHIPS, sailing from New-York on SATURDAYS, from Liverpool on THURSDAYS, calling at Cork Harbor each way.

ADRIATIC.....SATURDAY, Dec. 28, at 4 A. M.
OCEANIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 4, at 10 A. M.
BALTIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 11, at 2 P. M.
ATLANTIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 18, at 9 A. M.
CELTIC.....SATURDAY, Jan. 25, at 1 P. M.
BELGIC.....White Star Dock, Jersey City, Jersey City.

Superior accommodations for all classes; unrivaled cuisine.

SAFETY, SPEED AND COMFORT.

Midships, Saloon, Staterooms, Smoking-room and Bath-rooms in MIDSHIP section, where least motion is felt.

Cabin passage, $80, gold; steerage, $30, currency.

Passengers booked to or from all parts of America, or Paris, Hamburg, Norway, Sweden, India, Australia, China, &c.

Drafts from $1 upward.

For passage and other information apply at the Company's offices, No. 19 Broadway, New-York.

J. H. SPARKS, Agent.

NATIONAL LINE

OF STEAM-SHIPS.

WEEKLY TO QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

FORTNIGHTLY TO LONDON DIRECT.

From Pier No. 45 and of North River.

TO QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

CANADA, Wednesday, Dec. 25, at 1 P. M.
GREECE, Wednesday, Jan. 1, at 7 P. M.
EGYPT, Wednesday, Jan. 8, at 1 P. M.
FRANCE, Thursday, Jan. 16, at 3 P. M.

TO LONDON DIRECT.

ERIN, Saturday, Jan. 4, at 9 A. M.

These three ships only.

THE LARGEST IN THE TRADE.

Cabin passage.....$75 and $80, currency
Steerage.....$30, currency
Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool and Queenstown and all parts of Europe at lowest rates.
Excursion tickets at reduced rates.
For freight or passage apply at the Company's office, No. 69 Broadway.

E. W. J. HURST, Manager.

ANCHOR LINE.

EXPRESS PASSENGER STEAMERS SAIL FROM NEW-YORK EVERY SATURDAY FROM PIER NO. 20 NORTH RIVER.

Passengers booked and forwarded to and from all railway stations in Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, and America as safely, speedily, comfortably, and cheaply as by any other route.

From New-York. From Glasgow.
Saturday, Dec. 28.....AUSTRALIA.....Saturday, Jan. 11
Saturday, Jan. 4.....VICTORIA.....Saturday, Jan. 18
Saturday, Jan. 11.....EUROPA.....Saturday, Feb. 1
Saturday, Jan. 18.....ANGLIA.....Saturday, Feb. 8
Saturday, Jan. 25.....CITY OF LONDON.....Saturday, Feb. 15

At noon, from Pier No. 20 North River, New-York. Cabin passage or passage to Liverpool, Glasgow, or Derry, by Saturday's sailing, $75 and $80, currency. Second cabin, $35; steerage, $30, currency. Excursion at lowest rates can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friends.

Apply at the Company's offices to

HENDERSON BROTHERS, No. 7 Bowling-green.

INMAN LINE FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:

CITY OF LIMERICK.....Thursday, Dec. 26, 2 P. M.
CITY OF PARIS.....Saturday, Dec. 28, 2 P. M.
CITY OF _____.....Thursday, Jan. 2, 2 P. M.
CITY OF NEW-YORK.....Saturday, Jan. 4, 10 A. M.
CITY OF BROOKLYN.....Thursday, Jan. 9, 1 P. M.
CITY OF BROOKLYN.....Saturday, Jan. 11, 2 P. M.

and each succeeding SATURDAY and THURSDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

CABIN, $75 and $80, gold, according to accommodation. Second cabin, $35, currency. Steerage, $30, currency. Drafts from Liverpool, Queenstown, Glasgow, Londonderry, London, Bristol or Cardiff, $1 currency.

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Hamburg, Bremen, Norway, Denmark and Paris at reduced rates.

For further information, apply at the Company's office,

JOHN G. DALE, Agent,
No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

RED BALL LINE OF Mail STEAMERS,

RATES OF PASSAGE REDUCED.

NEW-YORK TO

DEMERARA,

CALLING AT ST. THOMAS AND BARBADOES TO LAND MAILS AND PASSENGERS.

THESE FIRST-CLASS FULL-POWERED IRON STEAMERS ARE INTENDED TO SAIL FROM ATLANTIC DOCK, BROOKLYN, AS FOLLOWS:

MANDINGO, 1,600 tons.....Nov. 13 and Dec. 21, Followed by

LAGOS and GUNGA,

AND EVERY THREE WEEKS THEREAFTER.

These steamers are specially adapted to tropical service, having large state-rooms, bath-rooms and superior ventilation, and take only first-class passengers. A limited amount of cargo will be taken.

HORNSTEDT & GARTHORNE, Owners, No. 70 South-st., New-York.

For freight or passage apply to

E. S. MORGAN'S SONS, Agents,
No. 70 South-st., New-York.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.

THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.

The splendid vessels on this favorite route for the Continent will sail from Pier No. 50 North River as follows:

ST. LAURENT.....LEMAIRE.....Saturday, Dec. 28
VILLE DE PARIS.....DE KERGUELEN.....Saturday, Jan. 4
PEREIRE.....DARRE.....Saturday, Feb. 1

PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD (including wine) NO BREST TO HAVRE.

First cabin.....$125 | Second cabin.....$75

Excursion tickets at reduced rates.

These steamers do not carry steerage passengers.

A saving of a return ticket may be effected by taking the steamers of this line, avoid both transit by English railway and the uncertainty of crossing the Channel, besides saving time, trouble and expense.

GEORGE MACKENZIE, Agent,
No. 39 Broadway.

FOR LIVERPOOL,

(VIA QUEENSTOWN,)

CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAILS.

THE LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY will dispatch one of their freighters full-power iron-screw steam-ships from PIER NO. 4 NORTH RIVER, EVERY WEDNESDAY, as follows:

MANHATTAN, Capt. Jas. Price.....Dec. 25, at 12 M.
WISCONSIN, Capt. T. Barrett.....Jan. 1, at 1 A. M.
NEVADA, Capt. Forsyth.....Jan. 8, at _____
WYOMING, Capt. Price.....Jan. 15, at _____
IDAHO, Capt. Morgan.....Jan. 22, at _____
MISSOURI, Capt. Freeman.....Jan. 29, at _____

Cabin passage, $60, gold.
Steerage passage, Office, No. 10 Broadway, $30, currency.

For freight or cabin passage apply to

WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 65 Wall st.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,

THE FLORIDA PORTS,

AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

THE STEAM-SHIPS

GENERAL HAMILL, Capt. MALLORY, THURSDAY, Dec. 26, from Pier No. 4 North River, at 3 P. M.

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 4 Bowling-green.

MONTGOMERY, Capt. FANCOTE, SATURDAY, Dec. 28, from Pier No. 15 North River, at 3 P. M.

R. LOWDEN, Agent,
No. 22 West-st.

SAN JACINTO, Capt. HAZARD, SATURDAY, Dec. 28, from Pier No. 4 North River, at 3 P. M.

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 4 Bowling-green.

VIRGO, Capt. BURLEY, TUESDAY, Dec. 31, from Pier No. 15 East River, at 3 P. M.

MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents,
No. 46 Broad-st.

Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Superior accommodations for passengers.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight line.

C. D. OW MEMIGO, Shipping Agent.
Agent A. G. & G. R. R., No. 229 Broadway.
GEORGE YONGE, Agent G. R. R., No. 650 Broadway.

DIRECT LINE TO HAVANA.

HAVANA, PROGRESO AND VERA CRUZ.

New-York and Mexican Mail Steam-ship Line, leaving Pier 3 N. River, at 3 P. M., direct to Havana.

CITY OF MEXICO, Sherwood.....Dec. 28
CITY OF HAVANA, (Havana only).....Dec. Jan. 4
CLEOPATRA, Phillips, (Havana only,) Sat. Jan. 11
CITY OF MERIDA, Tinsmans.....Sat. Jan. 18

For freight or cabin passage apply to

F. ALEXANDER & SONS, No. 52 Broadway.

SHIPPING.

THE GREAT SOUTHERN

FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE

FOR CHARLESTON, S. C., THE FLORIDA PORTS, AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.

Sailing every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, from Pier No. 2 North River, at 3 P. M.

CHARLESTON, Capt. JAS. SHERRY, Tuesday, Dec. 24.
SOUTH CAROLINA, Capt. S. J. RUSSELL, Thursday, Dec. 26.
CHAMPION, Capt. E. W. LOCKWOOD, Saturday, Dec. 28.

Superior accommodations for passengers. Through passage tickets and bills of lading issued in connection with the South Carolina Railroads to all points South and South-west, and over the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad to Florida, Cuba, and all points on the Charlotte and Darlington Railroad, and via connections to Florida ports. Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PER CENT. Goods forwarded free of commission. Bills of lading furnished and signed at the office. Total Passenger and Freight Office, No. 177 West-st., corner of Warren-st.

HENRY B. MORGAN & CO., Agents.

For through freight bills, or further information in reference to through freight, apply to

BENTLEY D. HASELL,
General Agent Great Southern Freight Line.

No. 177 Broadway.

EXTRA STEAMERS WILL BE DISPATCHED AS SOON AS LOADED.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S LINE TO

CALIFORNIA, JAPAN AND CHINA,

VIA PANAMA.

CARRYING MAILS, PASSENGERS, AND FREIGHT TO

ASPINWALL, PANAMA, SANTA MARTHA, GREYTOWN, AND PACIFIC COAST OF MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA, PERU, AND CHILI.

Steamers leave 10th, 20th, and 30th of each month, except when these dates fall on Sunday, then the day previous.

Dec. 31.....Steamer, OCEAN QUEEN, Capt. G. P. SHADBURNE, will leave Pier No. 42 North River, at 12 Noon, for the above ports, connecting at Panama with steamers for Central America, touching at Acapulco, and San Diego, and mine connecting at all Central American and South Pacific ports. Departures of 10th and 20th each month connect with the Company's steamer, touching at San Diego, Magdalena Cruz, and Port Angel.

Steamer GREAT REPUBLIC will leave San Francisco Jan. 1, 1873, for Japan and China. For rates of passage, freight, and all further information apply at Company's office on the pier, foot of Canal-st.

F. R. BABY, Agent.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.

UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.

REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS sailing on the 5th of every month.

NITEROI, Capt. SLOCUM.....Dec. 28
MERSEMACK, Capt. WEBB.....Jan. 25, '73
MILE, Capt. THELEFSEN.....Feb. 22

These splendid steamers, fitted out at a cost of $300,000 each, will leave Pier 1, Brooklyn, for Rio Janeiro, Santos, and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For engagements of freight or passage apply to

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent,
No. 4 Bowling-green, New-York.

UNITED STATES AND ROYAL MAILS

FOR HAVANA AND NASSAU, N. P.

Atlantic Mail Steam-ship Company, sailing every fortnight, on THURSDAY, at 3 o'clock P. M. precisely, from Pier No. 4 North River.

MORRO CASTLE, Capt. T. H. MORTON, Tues. Dec. 17
COLUMBIA, Capt. T. S. CURTIS, Thursday.....Dec. 26
MORRO CASTLE, Capt. T. H. MORTON, Thur. Jan. 9

For freight or passage apply to

A. W. DIMOCK, President,
No. 5 Bowling-green.

NOTICE TO TRAVELERS.

Families or gentlemen going to travel on the Continent of Europe should use the excellent Circular Tickets issued by the Company's Agents, which never leave Paris without one. Their services are invaluable in relieving the traveler from multiplicity of cares and troubles respecting passports, baggage, and conveyance of baggage, in securing the best accommodation, in protecting the traveler from imposition and an infinity of annoyances, to which they are exposed in various parts of the Continent. Apply for them to persons and trustworthy couriers and traveling servants may always be obtained by applying to the COURIER SOCIETY, No. 3 Rue d'Alger, near the Tuileries Garden, Paris.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RECEIVED FOR THE NEW-YORK TIMES

At the "Times" Up-Town Office, No. 154 West 23d-st., junction Broadway and 6th-av.
And the "Times" West-Side Office, No. 356 West 32d-st., corner of 6th-av.
NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

CHAMBER-MAID—WHO IS ALSO A good washer and ironer, to do other work or both; is willing to go South; is competent, and a Protestant; has City references; ladies can be seen. Apply at Employment Bureau, No. 427 6th-av., between 26th and 27th sts., upstairs.

CHAMBER-MAID AND WAITRESS.—BY a child's nurse and plain sewing.—By neat and tidy young girl, mentioned below; do any sort of upstairs work; City references to last place. Apply at Employment Bureau, No. 427 6th-av., between 26th and 27th sts., upstairs.

COOK, WASHER, AND IRONER.—BY a neat and tidy woman, Protestant; has plain family cook, and good washer and ironer. City and country references. Apply at Employment Bureau, No. 427 6th-av., between 26th and 27th sts., upstairs.

COOK.—BY A SUPERIOR FRENCH COOK; can do all kinds of cooking for dinner parties; is also a beautiful pastry cook; and an excellent baker; can give three years' City reference. Apply at No. 61 6th-av., near 26th-st. French Office.

COOK.—BY A GOOD COOK; IS AN EXCELlent bread-maker; can give the best of references from last employer as to capability, honesty, &c. Call at office, No. 721 6th-av., Reservoir-square.

COOK—CHAMBER-MAID.—TWO ENGlish girls, one a good cook, the other as chamber-maid; both to do the washing; best City references. Call at No. 237 East 27th-st.

HOUSE-WORK, &c.—BY A RESPECTAble German girl, to do house-work, cook, wash, or iron; plain cook and excellent washer and ironer; best City references. Apply at No. 218 Bowery, entrance on Bleecker-st.

HOUSE-WORK.—BY A GOOD GERMAN girl, to do general house-work, or to mind children. Call at No. 127 Norfolk-st., between Rivington and Stanton, as M. Hide.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A COMPETENT LAUNdress; can do up the finest clothes, French fluting, polishing; is willing to assist in the chamber-work; has the best of testimonials. Can be seen at No. 61 6th-av., near 26th-st. French Office.

LAUNDRESS AND CHAMBER-MAID.—BY a Protestant girl, a situation as laundress and chamber-maid; is thoroughly competent; can give the best of references. Call at office, No. 721 6th-av., Reservoir-square.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A THOROUGHLY COMplete and respectable young woman with first-class City references; and can do anything in her line. Apply at Employment Bureau, No. 427 6th-av., between 26th and 27th sts., upstairs.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A FIRST-CLASS LAUNdress; thoroughly understands her business in all its branches; unexceptionable City references from her last place. Call at No. 26 East 26th-st. in the candy-store.

NURSE.—BY A COMPETENT AND EXperienced child's nurse; can take charge of an infant from its birth, or would take an engagement as monthly nurse; has the best of references for each capacity. Can be seen at No. 61 6th-av., near 26th-st., French and German Office.

NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS.—BY A Protestant girl, a situation as seamstress; has the best of references from former employers. Call at office, No. 721 6th-av., Reservoir-square.

SEAMSTRESS.—BY A VERY GENTEEL Young girl; has had several years' experience in dress-making in the employ of a leading Broadway modiste; can also cut and fit children's clothes; is an expert operator; satisfactory references. Apply at Employment Bureau, No. 427 6th-av., between 26th and 27th sts., upstairs.

WAITRESS.—BY A PROTESTANT YOUNG woman, capable of filling a man's place; is a civil, obliging girl; understands the care of silver and making salads perfectly; has first-class City references. Apply at Employment Bureau, No. 427 6th-av., between 26th and 27th sts., upstairs.

MALES.

COACHMAN.—A GENTLEMAN IS DEsirous of procuring a situation for his coachman, who is a German man; and has lived with him a number of years. Call or address J. R., No. 24 East 30th-st.

COACHMAN AND GROOM.—BY A RESpectable man; single; are who thoroughly understands his business; is strictly temperate; will make himself generally useful. City or country; unexceptionable City references. Call at private stable, No. 42 7th-av., between 23d and 24th sts.

USEFUL MAN.—BY A COMPETENT American Protestant; thoroughly understands the care of horses in every respect; can do anything required about a gentleman's place; will give good recommendations as to honesty, respectability, &c. Call at No. 189 West 11th-st., corner of 6th-av.

USEFUL MAN OR COACHMAN AND Groom.—By a respectable young man, well recommended; can milk, care and drive cows, build fires, black boots and do other work about a place. Apply at No. 139 West 11th-st., corner 6th-av.

WAITER AND FOOTMAN OR GENeral Servant.—By a neat, respectable young man with best recommendations; is a first-class waiter; can also build fires, black boots, take care of horses, and do general work about a place. Apply at No. 139 West 11th-st., corner 6th-av.

WAITER.—BY A GERMAN PROTESTANT man as waiter in a small family, or as second waiter; willing, sober, and obliging; good recommendations; high wages not expected. Call at No. 8 East 21st-st., between 5th and Madison ave.

METALS.

THOMAS J. POPE & BRO.,

METALS,

No. 300 PEARL-STREET,

New-York-st., NEW-YORK.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
Washington, Dec. 21, 1872.

SEALED PROPOSALS are invited from steel-plate engravers and plate printers, and will be received at this Department until 12 o'clock M. on FEBRUARY, the tenth (10th) day of January, 1873, for furnishing Postage Stamps for a term of four years, commencing on the first (1st) day of May, 1873.

QUALITY OF STAMPS.

The stamps must be furnished, subject to the approval of the Department, from steel plates, engraved in the highest style of the art of steel-engraving, and printed in such colors as may be selected by the Department in the best and most approved manner, equal in every respect to the stamps now in use, upon paper of the best quality suitable for the purpose, thoroughly gummed with the best quality of adhesive gum, perforated in such manner that each separate stamp can be readily detached and used, the sheets to be well pressed and packed, so as to prevent them from adhering to each other; the ends to be neatly finished, and the whole to be in such other particulars as may be ordered by the Department to all the aspects under regulations of Postmasters and Postal Agents.

STOCK ON HAND.

The contractor shall at all times keep on hand a stock of the several denominations of stamps subject to the control of the Agent of the Department, in such quantities as may be required by the orders of the Department, and to provide against any and all contingencies that may be likely to occur during the existence of the contract, so that each and every order of the Department may be promptly filled; and the Department shall have the right to require the contractor, at any time during the existence of the contract, to furnish stamps of any kind of design and denomination specified by the Department, within a reasonable time thereafter.

PACKING.

Stamps to be transmitted by the mails must be securely packed in hermetically sealed tin cases, wrapped in strong manila paper; all other stamps either to be packed in strong binders' boards, bound on the edges and corners with manila, and enveloped in two thicknesses of strong manila paper, secured in strong manila paper; or, at the option of the contractor, in any other manner deemed the safest for transmitting any required; all packages to be so inclosed as to enable the Agent of the Department to officially seal them.

BLANKS.

In addition, the contractor will be required to furnish labels, and dies, the same to be used in connection with the stamps, for the use of the Agent of the Department, together with all other blanks required to be furnished with the stamps; also, all blanks for daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly returns, and for the number and denomination of stamps furnished.

ESTIMATE OF QUANTITY REQUIRED.

The number of stamps issued and to be issued during the four years contained by the present contract, has exceeded in the aggregate one hundred million, the average yearly issue being eighty-five-hundred per cent.

For the next four years it is estimated, at the same rate, that about one hundred and twenty-five millions and eighty-three million stamps will be required.

It must be understood, however, that no promise made under this advertisement, that the quantity of stamps required by the Department during the contract term, without reference to the above estimate, which are here given only for the information and guidance of bidders.

DELIVERY.

The stamps may be required to be delivered by the contractor in separate packages as above provided for, at the City of New-York, or at such place where they are manufactured; or in such quantities at the Post-office Department, Washington, D. C., (each denomination being kept separate,) as the Postmaster-General may direct.

DIES, ROLLS AND PLATES.

The dies, rolls, and plates from which postage stamps are now printed, being the property of the United States, will be placed in the Department custody of the contractor on the first day of April, 1873, the same to be held subject to the order and control of the Department, as hereinafter provided; and the contractor will be required, from and after, rolls and plates from such rolls and plates as may be necessary to be reproduced from the original dies, to have on hand ready for issue on the day the contract term commences, a sufficient stock of stamps of each denomination, to meet the requisitions, to fill the daily requisitions from the Department, without hindrance or delay.

The contractor will be further required to keep in repair all dies, rolls, and plates from which stamps may be printed, and to renew the same whenever required; and should new designs be required at any time to be substituted for those now in use, or any of them, or for denominations of stamps not now in use, the same shall be furnished and engraved, subject to the approval of the Postmaster-General, at the cost of the contractor, and at his own expense. All dies, rolls, and plates made or used at any time during the contract, shall be the exclusive property of the United States, and shall be delivered, in good working order, to the Postmaster-General or his authorized Agent whenever demanded.

BUILDING TO BE PROVIDED BY CONTRACTOR, &c.

The stamps will be required to be manufactured in a fire-proof building, and in separate apartments, distinct from those in which any other work is done by the contractor; and no other machinery can be operated in a fire and burglar-proof safe or vault, to be specially provided for that purpose, and said apartments and safe or vault shall at all times be subject to the inspection of an agent of the Department.

REPORTS.

The contractor will be required to report weekly, under oath, the number of stamps manufactured, finished, unfinished, and spoiled; the number issued during the week, and the number available for sale; all spoiled stamps to be destroyed by the Agent of the Department in the presence of the contractor or his representative.

STAMP AGENT.

An agent of the Department will have supervision of the manufacture, storage, and issue of the stamps, who shall at all times have full and free access to the apartments, safes, and vaults where the stamps are manufactured and stored, for the purpose of inspecting the same; and the contractor shall furnish him and his clerks suitable and convenient room for the transaction of the business of his agency, without cost to the Government.

CONTRACT NOT ASSIGNABLE.

The contract is not assignable, in any case, be lawfully transferred or assigned.

RESERVATIONS.

The Postmaster-General reserves the right to reject any and all bids if in his judgment the interests of the Government require it; also the right to annul the contract if, in his opinion, the contractor shall fail to fulfill any thing to perform faithfully any of its stipulations, or in case of a willful attempt to impose upon the Department stamps inferior to those now in use.

PAYMENTS.

Payments for stamps actually issued and delivered will be made quarterly, after proper examination and adjustment of accounts.

AGREEMENT—BONDS.

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JOHN A. J. CRESWELL,
Postmaster-General.

DEPARTMENT OF CITY WORKS,
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, CITY HALL,
BROOKLYN, Dec. 22, 1872.

TO MACHINISTS.

Plans and sealed proposals will be received at this office until Jan. 31, 1873, for a steam engine, boiler, and pumps, of the following general characters:

The pumps shall be capable of delivering six millions United States gallons in twenty-four hours, with a lift of twelve feet in twenty-four hours, with a maximum piston speed not to exceed one hundred and ten feet per minute, with a guaranteed duty.

The machine shall be erected complete, at Smith's Pond engine-house, Bushwick Centre, with all necessary fixtures for running, including counter, gauges, &c., but exclusive of foundations, (which latter will be prepared by the Board of City Works,) at a date to be stated in the proposals.

The engine will be subjected to the tests for capacity and duty, as usual, under experts to be agreed upon. If it fails to pass either test, it must be removed at the expense of the contractor. Six months after passing these tests, and kept in repair the mean while and under the charge of the contractor, if in good order, the engine will be accepted and payment in full made. By order of the Board.

LORIN PALMER, President.
D. L. NORTHUP, Secretary.

MACHINERY.

WANTED—A STEAM-ENGINE, WITH 14 TO 16 inch cylinder, 30 to 36 inch stroke, and not less than 40-horse power; also one tubular boiler, 4½ to 5 feet diameter, and 16 feet in length.

Prices must be low.

Apply to Empire Laundry, Nos. 128 to 136 East 53d-st.

BRICK PRESSES FOR FIRE AND RED brick manufactured at No. 239 Beach-st., Philadelphia. Established 1844. R. P. MILLER.

STATIONERY.

DIARIES AND JOURNALS FOR 1873, from 25 cents to $5; account books, all kinds stationery, blank books, &c. Orders solicited by

FRANCIS & LOUTREL,
No. 5 Spruce-st., New-York.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

ADVERTISEMENTS ARE RECEIVED FOR THE NEW-YORK TIMES

At the "Times" Up-Town Office, No. 154 West 23d-st., junction Broadway and 6th-av.
And the "Times" West-Side Office, No. 356 West 32d-st., corner of 6th-av.
NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

HORSE-BLANKETS, SADDLE-CLOTHS, and all kinds of sadlery goods extensively manufactured; a full line of blankets for street and stable; patent and other improvements; prices very cheap. C. B. SMITH & CO., No. 4 Murray-st.

ARMY WAGONS, FARM CARTS, Government Blankets, Mule Collars, Harness, McClellan Saddles, Tents, Canvas, Waterproof Wagon, Horse Covers. W. A. CARTER, No. 41 Cortlandt-st., near Greenwich.

WANTED—HORSES TO BOARD, IN THE country, warranted and best-reminded stable in the City. Nos. 147, 149, and 151 West Fifteen, near Broadway.

COUPE—IN PERFECT ORDER, BUT LIT. tle used, at CASSIN'S stables, 115 East 13th-st.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

ST. CHARLES HOTEL.

EUROPEAN PLAN.

No 646 Broadway, Corner Bleecker-st.
GOOD ROOMS 50 PER DAY.
POPULAR PRICES.
Rooms from $1 to $10 per week.

LELAND'S

STUYVESANT HOUSE.

BROADWAY, 28th and 29th sts., New-York.
Americans Plan; with Elevators.
Centrally located, near the depots and theatres.
LEWIS & GEO. S. LELAND, Proprietors.

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NO EXTRA CHARGE WHATEVER.

STAGERING.—NEW-YORK STAMMERING INSTITUTE, (established 1861,) Prof. MARX and COZINE, Managers, No. 167 West 34d-st. Entirely unknown with all other systems. Pupils at the Agency of the Institute, or at their residences, if desired. Terms moderate. Pupils can board at other places if they require; all packages to be so inclosed as to enable the Agent of the Department to officially seal them.

BLANKS.

In addition, the contractor will be required to furnish labels, and dies, the same to be used in connection with the stamps, for the use of the Agent of the Department, together with all other blanks required to be furnished with the stamps; also, all blanks for daily, weekly, monthly, and quarterly returns, and for the number and denomination of stamps furnished.

ESTIMATE OF QUANTITY REQUIRED.

The number of stamps issued and to be issued during the four years contained by the present contract, has exceeded in the aggregate one hundred million, the average yearly issue being eighty-five-hundred per cent.

For the next four years it is estimated, at the same rate, that about one hundred and twenty-five million and eighty-three million stamps will be required.

It must be understood, however, that no promise made under this advertisement, that the quantity of stamps required by the Department during the contract term, without reference to the above estimate, which are here given only for the information and guidance of bidders.

DELIVERY.

The stamps may be required to be delivered by the contractor in separate packages as above provided for, at the City of New-York, or at such place where they are manufactured; or in such quantities at the Post-office Department, Washington, D. C., (each denomination being kept separate,) as the Postmaster-General may direct.

DIES, ROLLS AND PLATES.

The dies, rolls, and plates from which postage stamps are now printed, being the property of the United States, will be placed in the Department custody of the contractor on the first day of April, 1873, the same to be held subject to the order and control of the Department, as hereinafter provided; and the contractor will be required, from and after, rolls and plates from such rolls and plates as may be necessary to be reproduced from the original dies, to have on hand ready for issue on the day the contract term commences, a sufficient stock of stamps of each denomination, to meet the requisitions, to fill the daily requisitions from the Department, without hindrance or delay.

The contractor will be further required to keep in repair all dies, rolls, and plates from which stamps may be printed, and to renew the same whenever required; and should new designs be required at any time to be substituted for those now in use, or any of them, or for denominations of stamps not now in use, the same shall be furnished and engraved, subject to the approval of the Postmaster-General, at the cost of the contractor, and at his own expense. All dies, rolls, and plates made or used at any time during the contract, shall be the exclusive property of the United States, and shall be delivered, in good working order, to the Postmaster-General or his authorized Agent whenever demanded.

BUILDING TO BE PROVIDED BY CONTRACTOR, &c.

The stamps will be required to be manufactured in a fire-proof building, and in separate apartments, distinct from those in which any other work is done by the contractor; and no other machinery can be operated in a fire and burglar-proof safe or vault, to be specially provided for that purpose, and said apartments and safe or vault shall at all times be subject to the inspection of an agent of the Department.

REPORTS.

The contractor will be required to report weekly, under oath, the number of stamps manufactured, finished, unfinished, and spoiled; the number issued during the week, and the number available for sale; all spoiled stamps to be destroyed by the Agent of the Department in the presence of the contractor or his representative.

STAMP AGENT.

An agent of the Department will have supervision of the manufacture, storage, and issue of the stamps, who shall at all times have full and free access to the apartments, safes, and vaults where the stamps are manufactured and stored, for the purpose of inspecting the same; and the contractor shall furnish him and his clerks suitable and convenient room for the transaction of the business of his agency, without cost to the Government.

CONTRACT NOT ASSIGNABLE.

The contract is not assignable, in any case, be lawfully transferred or assigned.

RESERVATIONS.

The Postmaster-General reserves the right to reject any and all bids if in his judgment the interests of the Government require it; also the right to annul the contract if, in his opinion, the contractor shall fail to fulfill any thing to perform faithfully any of its stipulations, or in case of a willful attempt to impose upon the Department stamps inferior to those now in use.

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WINTER RESORTS.

ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL, NASSAU, N. P. Business is now open. Persons desiring to escape the rigors of Northern Winter can obtain circulars containing full information by addressing JAMES LIDDERWOOD, agent, No. 415 Broadway, New-York.

SUMMER RESORTS.

ROUND HILL HOTEL

CHRISTMAS DAY.

A Jolly Season for the Young and Old.

Remarkably Successful Programmes in the Churches and Schools.

How the Day Was Celebrated in the Public Institutions.

A Glance at the Doings Yesterday in the City and Elsewhere.

The ideas usually associated with Christmas seem to have been well realized, yesterday, so far as this City was concerned. Every one knows that the day was intensely cold, the sky clear, and the sun bright; that snow and ice covered the ground; that the weather came up to the best standard of tradition and story, and yet few can rightly appreciate the spirit in which the great festival was celebrated. It is a pleasant picture, and one to which the blackened walls and smoldering fires of the day previous only serve as a background, bringing out its beauties into greater relief. Early in the morning the church bells rang out their merriest peals, several of the ships in the harbor at the same time firing salutes. A little later, surpliced priests might have been heard preaching "Peace on earth, good-will to men," and choristers singing with one voice, "Shout the glad tidings," "Hosanna to King David's Son," "Christians awake, salute the happy morn," and other Christmas hymns and anthems of a like tenor. About noon immense crowds of people poured out of church into the street, and walked briskly home, for the frosty air prevented any familiar loiterings, where they passed the rest of the day in social enjoyment. And this would have been heightened had they known how largely a less fortunate class—the inmates of cellars and garrets, of hospitals and other public institutions—were enjoying their Christmas dinners, blessed with words of cheer from Christian men and women. In the afternoon many muffled themselves in furs and comforters, and for hours made the polished steel ring on the skating ponds. The scene shifts at night to the quiet and comfort of home, to the glitter and amusement of the theatre; and then Christmas is gone.

The Day in the Churches.

In accordance with the custom established centuries ago, the Christmas services in the Christian churches of all denominations were of a peculiarly impressive and appropriate character. The preparations for the services were carried out with completeness and harmony. The decorations of all the places of worship in the City were such as to commend themselves to the public. Relying upon nature principally, the ornamentation most successfully carried out, and which appealed most touchingly to the worshipers, was composed of the beautiful flowers of the season, the emblematic evergreens, and the time-honored mistletoe, without which Christmas would not be itself. To render fitting reverence and homage to the day, the choirs of the churches have practised early and late, and yesterday the grand chants, the glorious anthems, and the simple, but deeply religious hymns were sung with an unwonted harmony and finish, and must have convinced the most skeptical that the power of religious music is beyond exaggeration and appeals to the divine feelings of humanity with a tenderness and truth to which the most learned and eloquent discourses have never been able to attain. The great churches of the City appointed to themselves all the aids of practiced vocalists and musicians, and were able to select from the great masters their finest harmonies to honor Christmas Day. The little places of worship in by-streets, while not aiming so loftily, honored their Master's natal day by pouring forth into the cold morning air simple hymns of adoration and praise. Many of the churches avoided special religious services, and confined their celebration of the day to feasts and festivals to their Sunday-school children. These services, if not so impressive and striking, were in their way productive of great happiness.

TRINITY CHURCH.

The Christmas services at Trinity Church have become so famous that people from all the distant suburbs of the City find their way there, and, before the morning service commenced, the large building was filled to its utmost capacity. The decorations of Trinity Church, as always on festival occasions, were simple yet appropriate—the immense congregation, filling the vast and handsome interior, being slightly considered the best ornament. The programme of music, which has already been published, was sung throughout as it only can by the fresh young voices of the Trinity choir. One of the most striking portions of the musical service was the closing voluntary, consisting of the allegro movement from Mr. Morgan's symphony for orchestra and organ. So admirably was this piece performed that the congregation was reluctant to leave the church.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Christ Church, Fifth-avenue and Thirty-fifth-street, made unusual preparations for their Christmas celebration. The interior was profusely and tastefully decorated, and the early morning service saw the building completely crowded, despite the intense cold. The musical programme was of a most extensive and exacting description, and was performed by the united chancel and gallery choirs, with the well-known Mrs. Imogene Frown, Miss Toede, Mr. Graf, and Mr. Thistlay as soloists. Three services were held during the day, and at each the church was well filled.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

The Christmas festival of Plymouth Sabbath-school was held in the evening at Plymouth Church, under the supervision of Messrs. Duncan, Brush, and Platt, and was attended by a very large number of the scholars and their friends. A series of tableaux and the singing of a well-chosen selection of Christmas songs were the leading features of the entertainment.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES.

The ordinary impressiveness of the services in the Roman Catholic Churches, as may be well-imagined, received additional solemnity in the celebration of Christmas day. St. Patrick's Cathedral presented the appearance of a vast illuminated parterre. The countless wax-tapers and the magnificent floral offerings were disposed of in such a manner as to make the interior almost unearthly in its grandeur and brilliancy. Low Mass was performed at 4½ A. M., and hourly thereafter until 10½. The first High Mass of the day was celebrated at 11 o'clock, and was a most impressive spectacle. Archbishop McCloskey and Vicar-General Starrs officiated at the services during the day. At St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, and the other Roman Catholic Churches, similar services were performed, and each place of worship found itself filled from the first early morning celebration of Low Mass until the last service of the day concluded.

At the Public Institutions.

Christmas cheer was most royally observed in the public institutions yesterday, and although a patient in a hospital, a criminal in prison, a thief in the penitentiary, and the pauper in the almshouse are not of the class likely to be cheerful, yet they all were yesterday. Regarding the paupers, of course their cheerfulness was to be expected as a natural occurrence, but if the jollity of other inmates of institutions was created by extraneous circumstances, it was at least of a hearty and infectious character.

CHRISTMAS IN THE TOMBS AND OTHER CITY PRISONS.

The great Christmas festival was celebrated in a becoming manner at the different City prisons yesterday. In accordance with their usual custom, the Commissioners of Charities and Correction gave orders that the prisoners should be supplied with a good, substantial Christmas dinner, and, for one day at least, the inmates of these dreary cells were allowed to participate in the universal rejoicing.

At the Tombs about 400 prisoners were supplied by Warden Finley with a plentiful supply of poultry, pork, and vegetables, under the immediate superintendence of Commissioners Brennan and Bell. The prisoners were also allowed to exercise on the corridors almost all day, and expressed themselves in terms of gratitude for the privilege afforded them.

At Ludlow-street Prison Warden Tracey supplied the inmates with a Christmas dinner, which included several kinds of poultry and vegetables. They were also allowed considerable relaxation in prison discipline during the day.

The prisoners confined at Essex Market had a first-class dinner served up to them under the direction of Prison-keepers Collins and Sullivan, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The dinner, which consisted of fowl and vegetables in variety, was heartily welcomed by the inmates.

Mr. Thomas Smith, keeper of Jefferson Market Prison, supplied its inmates with a bountiful Christmas repast at 2 o'clock. It consisted of fricasseed chicken, turkey, and vegetables without limit.

THE PARK HOSPITAL.

Warden George Brown, of the Park Hospital, with the assistance of Mrs. Brown, manufactured a plum pudding of Brobdingnagian proportions, which, with turkey and cranberry sauce, was medicinally administered to the patients by Drs. Amable and Hemmenway, and a poor little girl, whose foot was amputated some days ago, on finding out that she was eating real plum pudding, said she would take advantage of the opportunity, as she might not have any again during her life.

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL.

At Bellevue Hospital, Warden Brennan, assisted by the worthy nurse Mary, spread out a perfect feast for the patients. Huge turkeys flanked the tables on every hand, and puddings, and pies, and custards gladdened the eyes of the unfortunates confined to their beds. The turkeys and puddings vanished in the twinkling of an eye; but many of the pies remained untouched. The cause of this gastronomic failure was that Warden Brennan chiefly recommended the excellent potato to his guests, and constantly required Mary to pass along "the murphies." And after the feast had been partaken of, the patients able to walk, or hop, or skip, or in fact progress on their feet in any manner, filled up the square-hall and merrily footed it to the sweet music of asthmatic fiddlers and a dropsical flute-player. Warden Brennan opened the ball by performing an Irish jig with Mary, and the fun was greatly enjoyed.

THE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

The Orphan Asylum on Randall's Island was the great centre of attraction for visitors, and Warden Stephens spared no pains to make it so. The busy hands of the little children had gayly decorated the interior of the building with evergreens, and when they stood up and sang in unison "The Merry Christmas Time," their faces showed that they sang from their hearts. Hundreds of ladies visited the institution, and countless dolls and baby-houses and fairy story books were left in little hands, welcome remembrances of the day.

AT THE FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

The ladies and gentlemen who visited the Five Points House of Industry, yesterday, were amply repaid for their trouble. The 800 little inmates and scholars were entertained at a sumptuous dinner, and each one received a gift. The Christmas tree was loaded down with beautiful toys. The patience with which the children waited for the conclusion of the long exercises (the distribution of the gifts being the last thing on the programme,) was quite remarkable, as showing the excellent discipline of the establishment.

At 5 o'clock the exercises began, in the large chapel of the institution, which had been profusely decorated with evergreens, flags and mottoes. The body of the building was crowded with ladies and gentlemen. The programme consisted of solos, duets and choruses, recitations from Dickens and Scott, and two small girls, and earnestness class exercises, all of which were unexpectedly interesting. The selections were made with great taste. At 8 o'clock the children and visitors adjourned to the dining-room, and the former partook of a bountiful dinner of roast fowls, beef, pastry, cake and pie. The children then proceeded to the chapel, where Santa Claus in miniature suddenly entered, loaded down with toys, of which he speedily delivered himself by filling several stockings, making, meanwhile, a very neat and humorous speech. Upon his disappearance the Christmas tree was stripped, and each little one received a present.

Mr. W. R. Barnard, the Superintendent, stated that the expenses of the institution are only about $35,000 per year, or only three cents for each meal. They have no reserve fund, but are supported entirely by voluntary contributions. They are under no expense for clothing or shoes, which they collect second-hand and repair at the institution. Besides feeding and caring for 800 children, they care for poor women who are out of work.

THE NEWSBOYS' LODGING-HOUSE.

A dinner was given, last evening, by William M. Fiess, Esq., to the newsboys and bootblacks of this City, at the Newsboys' House, No. 49 Park-place. In the large dining-room on the second floor were ranged ten long tables, at which over 200 boys could be seated at a time; and these tables were spread three or four times during the evening, those who arrived earliest at the "home," being first entertained. The room was hung with garlands and wreaths, and over all was suspended a banner with the words, "A Merry Christmas to all, from William M. Fiess." At 6 o'clock, a number of the boys were placed by the Superintendent, Charles O'Conner, on either side of the long tables, and before they took their seats Mr. Dupuy offered a short prayer, after which Mr. Fiess wished them all a "Merry Christmas." The boys responded with a similar wish and resounding cheers, after which they began to demolish the turkeys, roast beef, vegetables, pies and ice-cream, with all of which they were bountifully supplied. Mr. Fiess told the boys that he had received letters from President Grant, Gen. Dix, (the Governor elect,) Wm. Orton, Col. F. B. Hayes, Col. G. Bliss, Jr., A. R. O'Neill, Judge John Brady, and others, who regretted that they could not be present, but who all wished them a "Merry Christmas." While the boys were seated at the tables after eating their dinner, Mr. Dupuy introduced Mr. Gen. Jones, of the Times, who was received with loud cheers, and who made the following address:

MY DEAR BOYS: I am glad to meet you here to-night, and to see you enjoying yourselves, as you are. While thus engaged, let me call your attention to one fact, and that is, when everything appears to go badly with you, you must not consider that you are without friends. This dinner shows that you have friends, and there are many more than you have any idea of; for many persons have contributed to supply you with a good house and warm beds at this inclement season. You have very many friends who are looking forward to your being well, and improving your condition in life; friends to whom you cause pain when you forget the lessons that are taught you here. When you go wrong, you cause those friends great grief. You must be thankful to that friend who has furnished this Christmas dinner, and always remember to think well of him, and of the many other kind friends who have given you this home. But above all, do not forget Mr. Fiess. [Loud cheers.]

Mr. Fiess then stepped forward, and for several minutes could not speak for the uproarious cheers of the boys. He then said:

BOYS: I am obliged to you for your hearty cheers, and am assured that they come from your hearts. Mr. Jones has told you that it is necessary you should obey your teachers, and learn those lessons which are taught by them. Learn to lead good lives, and try to be honest, and the day is approaching when you may become what many of our merchants now are, some of whom began life from a position similar to that which you occupy today. Go on and prosper. [Cheers.]

After the dinner the boys adjourned to the school-room on the third floor, which was also decorated with garlands, banners, mottoes, evergreen crosses, &c., and where they engaged in various amusements suitable to a Christmas night.

Among the persons present were several ladies, also Senator Conkling, Isaac H. Bailey, Henry Clews, Chas. Chamberlain, Jr., Lancie Myers, Joseph Moody, J. J. Lyons, Robert A. Filson, E. Delafontaine, and others, who took great interest in the proceedings.

AT THE RIVINGTON-STREET LODGING-HOUSE.

At the Rivington-street Boys' Lodging-house, under the superintendence of Mr. George Cadder, the day was gloriously celebrated. The Children's Aid Society provided the Christmas dinner, and some of the ladies of that truly charitable institution were present to attend the wants of the 150 little urchins who make the Lodging-house their home. The reception room was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens. The branches of two tall Christmas trees fairly glistened with bright-colored candies and pretty-painted toys. It was a cheering sight to see the little boot-blacks and newsboys rushing merrily about the room cutting such capers, and performing such extraordinary evolutions in the exuberance of their joy as only little street Arabs know. This was before the exercises commenced. At 7 o'clock the boys sat down to a magnificent Christmas dinner, composed of roast turkey, pies, fruits, cakes, and other delicacies. After dinner the children repaired to the reception-room, where the remainder of the evening was passed in recitations by the boys, the singing of some beautiful Christmas carols, and appropriate addresses by several of the gentlemen who were present.

AT THE GIRLS' LODGING-HOUSE.

The inmates of the Lodging-house for Girls, No. 91 St. Mark's-place, Mrs. Hurley, Superintendent, had quite a gala day yesterday. In the morning a representative of Santa Claus, the Benevolent, deposited appropriate presents for the juvenile inmates. In the afternoon a substantial dinner of roast beef and ham, pies, and other appendages of a good Christmas dinner, was served up under the direction of Mrs. Hurley, after which some of the lady patronesses of the institution, which is under the management of the Children's Aid Society, visited the house, and an entertainment for the benefit of the young folks was improvised by Mrs. Hurley and friends. Music and dancing were kept up until the rules of the institution required all to retire.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY—SIXTEENTH WARD.

At the head-quarters of the Sixteenth Ward Branch of the Children's Aid Society, about 100 boys, of all ages and sizes, assembled last evening, at the invitation of Messrs. Bladgen, Ward, and Roosevelt, and partook of a sumptuous dinner, consisting of roast turkey and other Christmas fare. The management experienced some difficulty in determining what the dessert should consist of. Consequently at a meeting of the majority of the boys present a few evenings since, the question whether it should be ice-cream or plum-pudding was put to the vote. There were ninety-three boys present, ninety of whom voted for ice-cream, and the remaining three for plum-pudding. The boys having placed "money at a discount," as one of them expressed it, sixty quarts of cream were served out between them, which soon mysteriously disappeared. Dinner over, the boys were entertained by several friends of the institution in the school-room. The dinner was superintended by the manager of the institution, Mr. John Gourley.

The Street Celebrations.

There was a perceptible thinning off in the number of fantastical and reasonable target companies, probably because the weather was too cold for this class of aspirants for distinction. A few ferocious gorillas, accompanied by a gigantic Uncle Sam, a wild Indian, and a diminutive and decrepit Knight of the olden time, gathered about noon near Chatham-square, and disappeared at a popular resort on the line of Third-avenue, whither also the tambourin procession by the horse-cars. These expeditions are invariably wound up with a drunken revel.

The Day Among the Germans.

While the eve of Christmas is by the Germans generally celebrated quietly in the family circle, around the brilliantly-illuminated tree, the day yesterday was more fully and extensively celebrated in public, by entertainments, soirees, balls, and social festivals, prepared under the auspices of numerous clubs and vocal and musical organizations. The New-York Turn-Verein dramatic entertainment, last night, at the Turn Hall, which was fully decorated with Christmas trees and evergreens. The New-York Sangerrunde gave a ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms, at which a drawing for Christmas presents took place. The Beethoven Maennerchor celebrated the day at its Hall, in Fifth-street, by a series of social festivities, including an exhibition of vocal and musical exercises by the pupils of the singing school. In the evening the festivities were wound up by a soiree dansante. The patriots of the revolution of 1848-49 were engaged in a reunion and social entertainment at No. 24 Pitt-street. The Sudtirler Saengerbund gave a Christmas soiree at the Walhalla, in Orchard-street, last night, including a dance, which was fully enjoyed by all participating, and the Schillerbund was engaged in a similar entertainment at the Turn Hall. The Hudson Maennerchor gathered around a Christmas tree at its headquarters, No. 20 Vandam-street, and engaged in a distribution of holiday presents. A number of similar festivities on a minor scale took place in several places in this City, under the auspices of the different clubs and societies. The Germania Hall, in Houston-street, the German Women's Benevolent Society gave its eighth annual ball, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the charitable fund established by the Society. The German places of amusement along the Bowery and St. Mark's-place, and other localities, were, during the day, largely attended by pleasure-seekers, to enjoy the cool and dramatic entertainments provided especially for the occasion, while those of a literary turn of mind frequented in large numbers the library and reading-rooms of the café establishments. The German churches, with their Christmas decorations, presented holiday appearances, and were largely frequented during the day by the church-going portion of the German community.

The Day at the Government Forts.

The United States troops at the various forts in the harbor were furnished with a bountiful dinner yesterday at the expense of the Government. The soldiers assembled at their different messes at 1 o'clock, and discussed a dinner in which roast beef, pork, turkey, &c., were plentifully provided. Great hilarity prevailed, and the troops expressed themselves as highly pleased at the quantity and quality of the food spread before them.

The Day in Brooklyn.

To say it was a quiet Christmas expresses concisely the state of things out of doors in Brooklyn yesterday. Jack Frost seemed to have placed an embargo at every street door, granting a dispensation only to the irrepressible juveniles, who, for a few hours in the early part of the day, made the air resonant with the blow for horns. At the various charitable and penal institutions there was a glow of Christmas cheer. Turkey was anatomized at the Orphans' Asylum, the Newsboys' Home, the Industrial Schools, and the Home for Aged and Indigent Females, and even at the Penitentiary and Truants' Home there was an encouraging deploy from the stereotyped and homely prison fare to things suggestive of happier days to the convicts.

Before it was yet day the bells from a score of Catholic church spires rang forth their summons to solemn High Mass, in celebration of the Nativity of the Redeemer. Services were held in the Episcopal churches, and the Sunday-schools of other denominations were treated to the usual festivities.

The Day in New-Jersey.

The intense cold prevented many of the parades and out-door sports from taking place in New-Jersey, and the day was observed in the old style at home and by thinly-attended services in the churches.

In Newark the churches of nearly all denominations were decorated with evergreens, and in the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches in particular the display of emblems of rejoicing was very elaborate.

In Jersey City, the churches were decorated in accordance with old-time usage, and religious services were held in the morning. At the Catholic Churches, St. Peters' and St. Mary's in particular, the crowds at midnight mass, cold as was the weather, were very large. At St. Mark's Episcopal Church, a choral service was held in the forenoon, at which musical selections from the most eminent masters was rendered by a choir led by Gustavus Blau. Dinners were given at the Jail, the hospitals, the Home for the Friendless, and at other charitable institutions.

In Hoboken, Paterson, Elizabeth, and New-Brunswick the church services and social festivities were of the usual character. Nothing of a peculiarly noticeable character occurred during the day. On Dundee Lake, at Paterson, thousands of skaters amused themselves during the afternoon, and at Hoboken the Skating Rink was a principal feature of attraction. In Trenton the convicts at the State Prison dined upon chicken. To one of the number, William H. Bumstead, the late Commissioner of the Board of Public Works of Jersey City, a friendly visit was made by several of his Jersey City friends.

The Day in Staten Island.

Yesterday, Christmas was generally observed throughout Richmond County. Religious services were held in the churches of all denominations, and the usual dinner was provided for the inmates of the public institutions. The Post-offices and other places of public business were closed, and business was generally suspended throughout the county. To-morrow evening a festival will be given by the Sunday-school of the First Presbyterian Church in the Mission Chapel at Stapleton. Rev. Dr. Rockwell, the pastor, will conduct the services.

CHRISTMAS ELSEWHERE.

Celebration of the Great Christian Holiday Throughout the Country.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—The celebration of Christmas is very general in this city. All stores and public offices are closed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Christmas was more quietly observed in this city today than heretofore. Services were held in the various churches, the President attending those at the Metropolitan.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—John T. Ford, Esq., gave a free theatrical entertainment at his Opera-house, this forenoon, to the orphans and poor children of the city. At the conclusion of the performance presents were distributed to all the children, irrespective of color. It was an interesting affair, and greatly enjoyed by the children.

BOSTON, Mass, Dec. 25.—Christmas has been observed here today by a general suspension of business, the usual religious services and social festivities.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 25.—Christmas Day has been generally observed here. Religious services were held in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and in St. John's Catholic Church. A number of churches held Christmas festivals last evening, and others took place this evening.

Personal.

Baron F. Wrangall, of St. Petersburg, Russia; Hon. O. J. Dodds, of Cincinnati, and Dr. T. O. Kendrick, of Boston, are at the Grand Central Hotel.

Dr. M. B. Anderson, President of the Cornell University, Rochester, N. Y., is at the St. Denis Hotel.

Hon. E. O. Perrine, Clerk of Courts, and Judge R. S. Mansfield, of Maine, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Col. E. S. Manning, of the British Army, and John A. Fray, of Boston, are at the Fifth-avenue Hotel.

A. B. Pullman, of Chicago; Hon. W. H. Crosshaw, Col. L. H. Sorrugg, and Col. M. B. Pritchard, of Alabama, are at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Senator Poland, of Vermont, is at the Astor House.

Col. Rene, of the United States Army, and H. W. Hook, of Philadelphia, are at the Glenham Hotel.

State Senator Horrobin, of Vermont, left the Westminster Hotel for Europe, yesterday.

Gen. Sherman left the Astor House for Washington, last evening.

ATTEMPTED JAIL-BREAKING.

Desperate Struggle of Convicts to Break Out of Jefferson Market Prison—Timely Discovery by the Keeper.

One of the most daring of attempts at prison breaking was made, last night, at the Jefferson Market Prison, by Matthew Busey and Michael Keaton, Busey's career has been one of crime. The last offence which he committed was the shooting, on Dec. 6, 1872, of James Burns, at No. 102 Greene-street.

Last evening, while seated in his office, conversing with Dr. Frank Houghtaling, the clerk of Jefferson Market Court, the keeper of the prison, Mr. Kennedy, heard a peculiar noise in the cells. He armed himself with a brace of pistols and proceeded to the prison. Shortly after, Mr. Houghtaling's attention was attracted by pistol-shots, and on entering the prison found that the noise proceeded from cell No. 1. Mr. Kennedy was found to be in conflict with the two prisoners, Busey and Keaton. The former was held down upon the floor by the keeper, who had his foot upon his neck, while Keaton was assaulting the keeper with a huge jimmy. The arrival of Mr. Houghtaling put an end to the struggle, and the prisoners were placed in separate cells.

An investigation of the cell revealed a decent. The plastering had been cut away, and the bricks that had been loosened and taken out had also been carefully replaced. When removed by Mr. Kennedy they displayed a breach in the wall two feet in length and a foot and a half in width, sufficiently large to admit of easy egress.

A search was made for the instruments used by the prisoners, which resulted in the discovery of a steel file ten inches long, and a steel skate-runner, the edges of which were so worn down as to leave no doubt that they had been used in creating the breach.

Keeper Kennedy asserts his belief that the man and woman who have been visiting Busey since his commitment have furnished him with the instruments for his liberation.

Busey remains dogged and sullen, as does his companion, and will say nothing further than it was his object to spend his Christmas night in the jail-yard. The prisoners are now safely locked up, and complaints will be made against them this morning.

Keaton was committed for petty larceny on Monday last.

NEW-YORK AND SUBURBAN NEWS.

NEW-YORK.

John Madigan, of No. 251 Madison-street, was stabbed in the breast by his son, Edward Madigan, during an altercation last night.

Last evening, the ticket-office of the Bowery Theatre was discovered on fire. A panic was prevented by the prompt use of a few pails of water.

Adam Smith, thirty-one years of age, of No. 17 Jay-place, was run down by a car and killed by his own truck, on Seventh-avenue, near Thirty-seventh-street.

The fifth anniversary of the Immanuel Sunday-school will take place this evening, at 7 o'clock, at the Scotch Presbyterian Church, Fourteenth-street, near Sixth-avenue.

An unknown man, apparently forty years old, was found lying insensible on the sidewalk in West Thirty-seventh-street, yesterday. He was removed to Bellevue, and died immediately.

William Cronin, thirty-five years of age, was found insensible in the hallway of No. 1 Jamesship, yesterday, and died a few minutes after being removed to the Fourth Precinct Station-house.

A cry of fire, about 9 o'clock last night, created a panic at the Centre-Street Theatre, and a general rush for the doors ensued. The fire was confined to a heap of cast-off wood and rubbish under the stage, and was extinguished without serious damage.

A revival meeting was held last evening at No. 316 Water-street (formerly Kit Burns' rat-pit.) Mr. Anderson presided, and several members of the congregation related their experiences of life before being attracted to these missions. The proceedings were enlivened by the singing of hymns.

Pacific Lodge, No. 138, F. and A. M., have elected the following officers for 1873: Isaac B. Conover, M.; James Hyde, S. W.; Horace Porter, J. W.; W. Charles B. Cornell, W.; John Pulsman, and Major W. Atkinson, Trustees. R. W. Howard R. Thorne, D. G. M., has been invited to install the officers.

On Tuesday evening, while several boys were playing around a bonfire in Lewis-street, a stone thrown by a boy named Frank Rockwell struck Ferdinand Haban, of No. 81 Lewis-street, on the head, and the latter died yesterday morning, from the effects of the blow. Rockwell was arrested, but is not accused of any criminal intent.

Mr. John W. Warrin, Superintendent of Lord & Taylor's establishment, Broadway and Twenty-fifth-street, was presented, on Christmas Eve, by the ladies of the department with a gold chain valued at $200. The clerks also presented Mr. Warrin with a solitaire diamond worth $600, and the delivery department expressed their esteem for the Superintendent, by the presentation of a gold ring valued at $150, and the little cash boys, not to be outdone in generosity, showed their respect for Mr. Warrin by presenting that gentleman with a pen and pencil case mounted in gold.

BROOKLYN.

James Wallace and Jeremiah Mahony, "Captain" and "Lieutenant" of a gang of New-York horse-stealing thieves, the "Matthew Smith Light Guards," were arrested in Greenpoint, yesterday morning for parading in the streets without the permit required by law. The entire company were marched off to the station-house, where they were dismissed with a reprimand by Police Captain Rho'ds. The Captain and Lieutenant were detained in custody.

LONG ISLAND.

Joseph Brown, of Astoria, has been appointed by Gov. Hoffman wreckmaster at Hell Gate and Queens County.

The Kelsey excitement still continues at Huntington. On Tuesday three arrests were made by Constable Trainor, the prisoners being Dr. Smith, Royal Phoenix, the reputed lover of Allie Smith, and Claudius Prince, the charge being complicity in the outrage upon Kelsey. They were taken before Justice Mentzer, and discharged on their own recognizance, to appear for examination today.

STATEN ISLAND.

Yesterday the Lower Bay was covered with floating ice, which considerably impeded navigation.

Yesterday morning a fire took place in the frame building attached to the brick dwelling occupied by John Honan, at Water-street, Stapleton. Loss $150.

NEW-JERSEY.

The Palisade Mountain House, Englewood, N. J., has not been burned, as erroneously reported. Mr. Charles Fairbury, President of the Arcole Insurance Company, says there is no foundation for the report.

The North German Lloyds Steam-ship line have leased the docks foot of Fourth-street, Hoboken, where new warehouses are to be erected. There are now six lines of Atlantic steam-ships landing in Hoboken and Jersey City.

Yesterday afternoon the discovery was made that one of the barges of the New-Jersey Central Railroad, which had been used in carrying freight from the foot of Liberty-street to the depot in Jersey City, had been broken into and robbed by thieves. One man has been arrested, who was found asleep on board the barge, but he denies all knowledge of the theft. The precise amount of loss cannot be ascertained, but it is supposed to be large.

Yesterday morning Officer White, of the Fourth Precinct, discovered a fire in the house occupied by Mr. William Taylor, in Emery-street. The officer attempted to give the alarm from box No. 64, but the alarm would not work. An alarm was finally given from another box, and the fire was soon extinguished. The loss is about $600. The fire was caused by a defective flue. There is much alarm in Jersey City on the subject of fire, since a large part of the city is built of wood, and the fact that the fire-alarm is not in good order increases apprehensions.

[Advertisement.]

KNOX'S SEAL-SKIN CAPS FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—These caps enjoy public favor this season, and Knox has a large stock of them, with collars and gauntlets to match. Don't fail to make your purchase at No. 212 Broadway, or under the Fifth-Avenue Hotel.

[Advertisement.]

Ring-worm, Salt-rheum, cured by using Juniper Tar Soap. Manufactured by CASWELL, HAZARD & Co., New-York.

Passengers Arrived.

In steam-ship Magnolia, from Bermuda.—Lieut. Gorowski, Lieut. Crookenden, Capt. J. Phillips, Capt. J. G. Smith, Capt. Samuel Smith, T. H. Mitchell, Robert Smallwood, Thomas Fleming, W. F. Ripley, M. Parson, C. Collins, James Kelley.

In steam-ship Glasgowian, from Cardiff.—Sidney Bomford, James Oliver, Andrew Fuller, Sam. Williams, Miss Louisa M. Abbott, Miss Jessie Howard, Miss Emma Hall.

SUNSET AND MOONRISE.

Sun rises	7:22	Sun sets	4:32
Moon rises	2:11	Moon sets	A. M.

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook	4:15	Gov. Island	4:50
Hell Gate	6:34		

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK.....WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25.

Arrived.

Steam-ship Glasgowian, (Br.,) Leyburne, Cardiff Dec. 2, via St. John, N. F., 16th, with mdse. and 40 passengers to Archibald & Baxter & Co. Has had strong westerly gales, with heavy head sea the entire passage.

Steam-ship Magnolia, Palmer, Bermuda Dec. 21, with mdse. and passengers to Wm. H. Webb. Has had rough weather the entire passage.

Steam-ship Southern, (Br.,) Robinson, Sydney, C. B. 14 ds. via Halifax 3 ds., to Bellett to Hewlett & Torrance. Has had strong N. W. gales the entire passage.

Steam-ship Bremen, (Ger.,) Ladewigs, Bremen Dec. 7, and Southampton 16th, with mdse. and passengers to Oelrichs & Co.

Steam-ship Wisconsin, (Br.,) Freeman, Liverpool Dec. 11, and Queenstown 12th, with mdse. and passengers to Williams & Guion.

Ship Alexander Marshall, Gardner, Liverpool 25 ds., with mdse. and 40 passengers to Chas. H. Marshall & Co. Came the northern passage, and encountered heavy westerly gales; Nov. 22 passed bark Noah, waterlogged and abandoned; same day, Arthur Woodhouse, a passenger, aged fourteen years, a native of England, was washed overboard and drowned; 24th passed hull or ship Mallard, timber loaded, waterlogged and abandoned, with mainmast gone; 25th passed bark Ida, petroleum, masts apparently but a short time in the water.

Bark Ocean, (Nor.,) Gorder, Brunswick 16 ds., with mdse. and 240 passengers to Uhlmann & Co. Came the northern passage, and had strong N. W. and N. E. gales, and been 10 ds. W. of the Banks; lost and split sails; has had 6 deaths and 4 births on the passage.

Bark Jules Cenard, (Fr.,) Christian, Matanzas 11 ds. via Delaware Breakwater, in ballast to James Henry. Has had variable weather the entire passage.

Bark Nordkyn, (Norw.,) Bugge, London 45 ds., in ballast to Punch, Edye & Co. Is anchored in Lower Bay for orders.

Bark Dumfries, Marc, of and 5 ds. from Boston, in ballast to Thomas, White & Co.

Brig T. Towner, (of New-Haven,) Willard, Santa Martha and Savanilla 21 ds., with fustic to D. de Castro & Co. Left Savanilla and was barometer low and had strong N. E. and W. gales the entire passage, and been 7 ds. in of Hatteras.

Brig Hunter, (of Halifax,) Wilson, Turgiss 42 ds., with cedar and fustic to Wm. Cunningham & Son, vessel to master. Has had strong N. W. gales the entire passage; lost and split sails; had part of the crew frost-bitten.

Brig Elizabeth, (Nor.,) Due, Tarragona 18 ds., and 39 ds. from Gibraltar, with wool to Kouwenhoven, Payson & Morgan. Has had fine weather to Bermuda, and been 9 ds. from thence, with strong N. W. gales.

Brig Alexander, (of Guernsey,) Winterfield, Santos 36 ds., via Hampton Roads, with coffee to Wright, Brown & Co. Left Santos to Geo. B. Bulley. Crossed the Equator 30 ds. W. in lon. 34; had fair weather to lat. 22 N., and from thence N. W. gales; lost and split sails.

Brig Peter Lourida, (Ban.,) Thurso, St. Johns N. B., 20 ds., with o'd fish to F. Marquand—vessel to master. Has been 10 ds. N. of Hatteras, with N. E. and N. W. gales, during which lost and split sails.

Brig Susan, (of Halifax,) Morse, Milk River, Jam., 25 ds., with logwood to Geo. Wheeler—vessel to Boyd & Hincken. Has had N. E. and N. W. gales the entire passage, and been 7 ds. N. of Hatteras; sprung fore topgallantmast, and lost a boat.

Schr. Harry White, (of Bucksport,) Hopkins, Jacksonville 6 ds., with yellow pine to Spofford & Rankin—vessel to master. Has had strong N. E. and N. W. gales, during which lost and split sails.

Schr. Charley Woolsey, Parker, New-Haven, for Rockland.

Schr. S. A. Boies, Hickman, Boston, for Philadelphia.

Schr. Westmoreland, Price, Providence, for Baltimore.

Schr. Elwood Doran, Hedges, Boston, for Philadelphia.

Schr. T. T. Tasker, Thrasher, Providence, for Philadelphia.

Schr. Abel Whittenden, Dodge, New-Haven.

Schr. Ocean, Freeman, New-Bedford.

Schr. Revenue, Wass, Providence.

Schr. Horizon, Lee, Pawtucket.

SAILED—Steam-ships Abyssinia and Manhattan, for Liverpool; City of Galveston, Havana and New-Orleans.

WIND—Sundown—N. E., moderate, cloudy.

By Telegraph.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 25.—Arr. steam-ships Huntsville, from New-York, and Wyoming, from Philadelphia.

Sld. steam-ship Chas. W. Lord, for Philadelphia.

Spoken.

Dec. 15, by brig Hunter, in lat. 31 00, lon. 74, schr. J. B. Leeds, from New-Orleans, for Providence.

Dec. 9, by bark Susan, of Havana, brig Tempest, from Milk River for New-York.

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